



Carl W. Schlenker, Sr.

May 16, 1919 - January 15, 2012

Carl W. Schlenker, Sr., 92, died January 15, 2012 at The Gardens of Wapakoneta. He was born May 16, 1919 in Wapakoneta to John and Elizabeth (Ochs) Schlenker who preceded him in death. On June 22, 1940, he married Mildred (Mid) Cook who died August 7, 1992. Mr. Schlenker attended Buckland School and after the death of his father, at the age of 12, he began a farming career. His interest and passion for agriculture spanned his entire life. After his marriage to Mildred, he started breeding purebred Holstein cattle and at one point had the highest producing herd in Auglaize County. During this period, he was elected secretary of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and helped organize the Auglaize County Holstein Association where he served as its first president. Over the years his farming operation was very diversified and included registered Shorthorn cattle, a farrow to finish hog operation, egg production, grain and sheep. In the early 60's he was recognized for having the highest commercial ewe flock in the state of Ohio. He helped organize the Wapakoneta Producers Livestock Association and served on its Advisors Board for many years. He also served many years as Director and President of the Wapakoneta Farmers Grain Company. In 1960 Carl was appointed to the US Farm Policy Council under Secretaries of Agriculture, Claude Wickard and Orville Freeman and served on the United States Farm Policy Organization conducting many farm panels throughout the Midwest. In 1961, he was chosen to speak at the Midwest Governor's Bread Basket Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska. He served as the president of the

Auglaize County National Farmers Organization and also served as the state secretary for that organization. He was a charter member and Ohio director for the National Corn Growers Association for ten years. In 1970, he was recruited to help organize and launch a farm program at WIMA Radio where he then served 5 years as the Farm Director until his retirement. In 1972, while traveling in Europe, he was the featured speaker at the Vocational Agriculture Convention in West Germany. In the late 1980s, he served as the first president of the Ohio Grain Producers Association where he was recognized for his lifetime service to American Agriculture and for always working for a better economic atmosphere for the American farmer. After retiring from active farming, he and Mildred participated in mission work spending time in Southern Mexico and he has served as President of the Wapakoneta Senior Citizens. Carl enjoyed fishing, hunting and playing cards with close friends and family. He was a member of the Ohio Farmers Union, Wapakoneta Senior Citizens and a life long member of St. Paul United Church of Christ in Wapakoneta where he served on the church council for 6 years. Survivors include two daughters, Mary Jo (Richard) Roth, Wapakoneta, and Judith (Frederick) Platfoot, Botkins, and three sons, Carl, Jr. (Peggy), Thomas (Patricia), and Chris (Deborah) Schlenker, all of Wapakoneta. Survivors also include twelve grandchildren: Pam (Easton) Loving, Fork Union, VA, Keith Clements, Eric Clements, Bryan (Amy) Schlenker, Greg (Wendy) Schlenker, Emily Schlenker, Bryce Schlenker and Brayden Schlenker all of Wapakoneta, Beth (Charlie) Henry, Versailles, Lorie (Jason) Henline, Spencerville, Tom (Holly) Platfoot, Botkins, and Aaron (Jacque) Schlenker, Marion, IA; and fourteen great-grandchildren: Samuel and Jacob Loving, Brooke, Alec, and Sydney Schlenker, Cale Henry, Jenna, Joshua, and Jenson Henline, Janel, Peyton, and Caden Platfoot, and Jacob and Jonathan Schlenker. Also surviving are sisters-in-law, Mary (Cook) Lepper and Evon (Knatz) Schlenker, and brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Ernest and June Cook. He was preceded in death by a brother, John Schlenker, a sister, Pearl Schiller, brother-in-law, John Schiller, a son-in-law, Wayne Clements, brother-in-law and sister-in-law

Sam and Betty Cook, brother-in-law Bud Lepper, stepfather John Gibson and two great-grandchildren, Aynsley Loving and Cole Platfoot. Services will begin 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. Paul United Church of Christ, Wapakoneta. The Rev. Joe F. Pumphrey will officiate. Burial will be in Resthaven Memorial Garden. Friends may call from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Bayliff & Eley Funeral Home, Wapakoneta and 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the church before services. Memorial contributions may be made to The Gardens of Wapakoneta Activity Fund, St. Paul United Church of Christ, Wapakoneta, or St. Rita's Hospice.

Tribute Wall

DK

“ *Mary Jo, Sorry to learn of your fathers passing Don*

Don Kennedy - July 10, 2015 at 03:56 PM

MS

“ *Uncle Carl was a wonderful person and we are sad for his passing. We are also blessed that he touch our lives and we are happy that he lived such a long life. Our deapest sympathies go to his closest family and friends.*

Matt & Missy Schlenker - July 10, 2015 at 03:56 PM

MM

“ *We will greatly miss this wonderful, interesting and witty guy!! We have so many good memories of being with him, his stories and his own memories of his life. He will never be forgotten in our hearts and mind. Good fishing Uncle Carl!!!!*

Mary, Cathy, Max, Marsha and Merlin - July 10, 2015 at 03:56 PM

KS

“ *You have my deepest sympathy and my thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Karen Stewart - July 10, 2015 at 03:56 PM

LE

“ *I am sorry to hear about Uncle Carl. He was such a sweet man. What I will remember most is his sweet smile that he always had. I am sure God is already giving him work to do in heaven. I look forward to seeing him again. Love to all.*

Leanne - July 10, 2015 at 03:56 PM

CF

“ We will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers.

Charlie and Emily Flanagan - July 10, 2015 at 03:56 PM

VO

“ So sorry to read of Carl's passing. Carl and I worked together at WIMA Radio many years ago. He was a wonderful man and a great friend. My husband, Art, and I send our most sincere sympathy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time.... VaLaire Orchard

VaLaire Orchard - July 10, 2015 at 03:56 PM

LA

“ Just wanted to send thoughts and prayers to all the family and friends. I have such good memories of going to the farm and spending the night and hearing stories, my kids loved going for golf cart rides with Uncle Carl and trips to the woods. We will miss you Uncle Carl and always will Love You! Lainie, Mike, Chrissy and Chris

Lainie - July 10, 2015 at 03:56 PM

DR

“ My sympathy on your loss of your father. I have many good memories from when we were neighbors in the late 1950s and more recently when I visited my parents and he would stop and talk to me after church.

David Ramge - July 10, 2015 at 03:56 PM