

In Memoriam

John P. "Doc" Reber, D.V.M.

John P. "Doc" Reber, D.V.M., Apple Creek, Ohio, 85, passed away peacefully at West View Manor after a period of declining health on January 26, 2023.

He was born on October 4, 1937, the eldest of five siblings raised on a farm and born to the late Fred and Bernice (Badertscher) Reber. He graduated from Apple Creek High School and the Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Doc lived a full life centered around farming. For more than 53 years, he maintained a large animal veterinary practice that focused on proactive dairy health, animal nutrition and the prevention of mastitis. He was an innovator in his field, influencing generations of farmers, and penned more than 500 monthly "Doc's Newsletters" for his clients across his career.

He also raised Registered Jerseys and bred them using the Reberland prefix. Fascinated with genetics, he began a breeding program of polled Jerseys within his own herd. He was a member of the American Jersey Cattle Association and the North Coast Breeders.

Doc was also voracious in learning and an avid reader. Many topics required his attention. He had an interest in people and would engage and entertain almost everybody in lively conversation, which was peppered with details and trivia gleaned from his readings.

He was a lifetime member of Apple Creek Historical Society and attended Mennonite Christian Assembly in Fredericksburg. He was a righteous, faithful servant all his life and a Biblical scholar. He was a favorite in adult Sunday school classes and through that fellowship made many lifelong, intimate friends.

He is survived by his wife, Sylvia (Sir-Louis) Reber, their children, Emily (Tom) Benekos and Frederick (Marnie) Reber, all of Wooster, Lucinda (Gary) Zanders of Fairview, Texas, Jane (Gary) Caskey of West Salem, and Melinda (Matt) White of Alden, N.Y.; 10 grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; and siblings Larry (Becky) Reber, Donald (Bonnie) Reber, Dwight Reber and Christine (Namen) Dalton, all of Apple Creek.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Kathryn (Zuercher) Reber, the biological mother of his first four children, and with whom he celebrated 14 years of marriage. As he always said, "I married well. TWICE."

Memorials may be made to the Apple

Creek Historical Society, P.O. Box 6, Apple Creek, OH 44606.

Terry Rawn

Terrence Eugene "Terry" Rawn, Pearl-and, Texas, 64, passed away on February 7, 2023, surrounded by loved ones.

He was born on June 21, 1958, to Dale and Barbara Rawn. The eldest of seven kids, Terry grew up and worked on his family's Registered Holstein and crop farm off Gender Road in Canal Winchester, Ohio. As an avid young 4-H member, he began the Rawn family's legacy of participating in showing dairy cattle at local, state, and national levels. His participation in the home Holstein herd culminated with its dispersal in June 1981.

Terry began his college career at the Ohio State University before transferring to Virginia Tech, where he was a member of the winning team at the 1984 National Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest. While attending Virginia Tech, he also met his future bride, Joy.

After he graduated in 1985, he worked in the A.I. business for 20 years as a sire analyst and regional sales manager. He then worked in the dairy industry as a manager for several dairy farms across the U.S.

Terry also operated Rawn Jerseys with his family in Lancaster, Ohio. Among the standouts was Marys Asteroid, Excellent-93%, who was named Best Bred and Owned of the All American Junior Jersey Show and All American and Junior All American Four-Year-Old in 2012. Rawn Jerseys was dispersed in March 2019.

Rawn was a member of the American Jersey Cattle Association and judged dairy cattle shows at all levels. He was the official for the All American Junior Jersey Show in 2000 and the National Jersey Jug Futurity in 2003 and consultant for the open show at the All American in 2006.

Intertwined in his love and passion for dairy cattle was a great love for people. He formed deep friendships wherever he went. He loved hearing peoples' stories, learning who they were, and from where they came. He would joke that he "only had three friends," but he was beloved and held in close counsel by many.

Terry was also passionate about the development and mentorship of young people and collected many mentees spanning states and industries over the years. From 2006 on, he served as an official at the post-secondary judging contest held at World Dairy Expo, a responsibility he greatly anticipated each year.

In addition to his wife of 37 years, Joy, he is survived by daughters, Rachel, Mary, and Annie, whom he considered his greatest accomplishments; two sons-in-law;

two grandchildren, whom he informed the world are "kind of a big deal;" Chris Yohn (Kate), whom he loved like his own son, and his three children; six siblings, Tom (Donna) Rawn, Tonya (Lloyd) Marshall, Tamie Rawn, Tricia (Derron) Dulkoski, Tina (Barb) Harrison-Rawn, and Tim Rawn; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Dale Rawn.

Memorials may be made to Second Baptist School Foundation, 6410 Woodway Drive, Houston, TX 77057, or the Canal Winchester High School Athletic Hall of Fame, 300 Washington St., Canal Winchester, OH 43110.

Jack Lewis Earnest

Jack Lewis Earnest, Mount Vernon, Ohio, 73, passed away on February 17, 2023.

He was born on September 15, 1949, in Mount Vernon, son of the late Don Lewis and Ina (Robinson) Earnest. He served his country in the Army during the Vietnam War from 1968-1970.

He was talented in many facets in life, including the breeding and showing of high-class livestock, along with construction and carpentry.

Jack operated a Registered Jersey farm with his family in Fredericktown, Ohio. He purchased his first Jersey in 1974 and with wise additional purchases and sound management built a herd known for top production and show achievements. Jack was especially proud of Silver Betsy of CJF, the 1983 Reserve National Grand Champion. The herd was dispersed in April 1979 for a then breed-record average for dispersals of that type (\$2,8887.74 on 51 lots). The high seller was Chocolate Vicky of Ogston, purchased by the late Jim Chaney, Bowling Green, Ky., for \$9,100. Recently, Jack was raising miniature Boston Terriers and enjoyed attending dog shows around the world.

His friends appreciated his sense of humor and practical insight into some of life's challenges.

Jack is survived by sons Nathan Earnest and Avery Earnest and several extended family members.

James "Jim" VanBuskirk

James "Jim" VanBuskirk, Carleton, Mich., 80, passed away unexpectedly on February 18, 2023, surrounded by his family after suffering from complications of a stroke.

He was born on September 15, 1942, in Monroe, Mich., to the late Vernon and Helen (Hawley) VanBuskirk. He graduated from Airport High School in 1960.

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He attended the agricultural short course at Michigan State University and took over the dairy operation from his grandfather. He married the love of his life, Janet Eder, on February 1, 1964.

Jim purchased his first Registered Jersey as a 4-H project in 1954 and operated JVB Red Hot Jerseys with Janet and their family. The family also farmed 400 acres of corn, alfalfa and soybeans on land that has been in the family since 1835. The herd was dispersed in 2017. Even though he was officially retired, he never stopped working the farm and was still running the tractor last year.

The VanBuskirks enjoyed showing their Jersey cattle at local, state and national shows, exhibiting at the All American Jersey Show for the first time in 1982. Among the show favorites are three Reserve Winners of the National Jersey Jug Futurity: JVB Starsetter Lassie in 1988, JVB Jims Sadie in 1991, and JVB Red Hot C Zsa in 2004. The VanBuskirks also developed several production and genetic standouts, including Sunny Day Bold Belinda-ET, Excellent-94%. She completed three lactations over 30,000 lbs. milk and 1,500 lbs. fat and was granddam of the high seller of the 49th National Heifer Sale.

Jim was very proud and set in his farmer ways. He never left a job undone, which led him to hold many positions of importance in the farming community. He served six years (2005-2011) as Director for District 11 of the American Jersey Cattle Association and was the organization's vice president as well. He was member of the All American Junior and Open Show Committees and president of the Michigan Jersey Cattle Association, which presented him with its Distinguished Service Award and Breeder Award. He was president of the Monroe County Farm Bureau and a longtime 4-H dairy leader.

An avid sports fan, he especially enjoyed watching his grandkids play sports and show cattle. Jim and Janet worshipped at Saint Rock Catholic Church in Flat Rock, Mich.

In addition to his wife of 59 years, Janet, he is survived by four children, Darlene (Kevin) Williams, Williams Jerseys, McConnelsville, Ohio, Deanne (Drew) Buell, David (Yvonne) VanBuskirk, and Denise (Billy) Bondy; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a brother, Bill (Terry) VanBuskirk; and a sister, Donna (Gene) Snell.

Memorials may be made to Saint Rock Catholic Church, 25022 Gibraltar Rd., Flat Rock, MI 48134, or Airport Community Foundation.