

In Memoriam

Eric Walter Lang

Eric Walter Lang, Brooklyn, Iowa, 60, passed away on September 2, 2022.

The youngest of four children born to Maynard and Dorothy Lang, he was named Eric for his red hair and Walter in memory of his maternal great-grandfather, Walter Uhl. He grew up on the dairy farm where he lived his entire life. He graduated from BGM Community High School and Iowa State University with a degree in dairy science. In college, he sang with the Iowa State Singers, the school's top choral group, and was a member of the dairy judging team.

Registered dairy cattle were his passion throughout life. He displayed an interest and aptitude for the business very early in life. While in junior high, he negotiated a loan from the farm's bank to buy his own dairy cattle, which turned into a profitable venture. After college graduation, he returned home to farm with his father and brother, Craig, at Yarrabee Farms Inc.

Over the years, Lang sold breeding stock to 13 states and four foreign countries and judged dairy cattle in five states. In the last several years, he bought top dairy animals in partnership with other breeders. One year, he co-owned the grand champion cow in three breeds at the Iowa State Fair. Among the Jersey standouts is Avonlea BC Kept Secret, 2014 Reserve All American Junior Two-Year-Old, owned with Jason Steinlage.

A self-taught auctioneer, he cried registered livestock sales for 41 years and served as ring man and pedigree man as well. He was a self-taught author whose articles appeared in the *Holstein World* and *Hoard's Dairyman*. As well, he wrote a weekly article for the online *Dairy Agenda Today* called "On Cows and Markets."

He met his future wife, Nicole, on Mike Mahaffey's campaign for Congress in 1996, when she called him and asked for a donation and he delivered it in person. She drafted him to sing at several major political events. He sang God Save the Queen at an event honoring Lady Margaret Thatcher in 1998 and The Star-Spangled Banner at a fundraiser during George W. Bush's first visit to Iowa in 1999. He asked Nicole to marry him on WHO radio at the Iowa State Fair.

While Eric and Nicole lived a low-key personal life, he always added his own flair and style to his public life, including his sales persona, writing, advertising for his cattle, promotional logos embroidered on his shirt and the hats he always wore.

He and Nicole were generous with

worthy causes. They annually gave several large scholarships to students enrolled in dairy science at Iowa State in honor of Iowa registered dairy cattle breeders. He was a major donor to World Dairy Exp and other regional dairy shows.

In addition to his wife of 24 years, Nicole Schlinger, and his brother, Craig, he is survived by two other siblings, John and Christine (Turpin).

Shawn Lynn Bachelor

Shawn Lynn Bachelor, Orland, Ind., 44, passed away on September 30, 2022, from a farm accident.

He was born on November 22, 1977, in Coldwater, Mich., to Stephen and Lynda (Holden) Bachelor. He graduated from Prairie Heights High School in 1996 and married Jaclyn Didier in Angola, Ind., in May 2000.

Shawn established Bachelor Livestock LLC in 2003 and owned and operated Bachelor Grain with his brother, Cory.

His entire life, Shawn was also active on the family farm, Bachelor Farms, which raised Registered Jerseys and was active in the show ring. The Bachelors exhibited two National Jersey Jug Futurity Winners and three Reserve Winners. They received both the Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor banners at the All American Jersey Show in 1995. Shawn is the only man to place the National Jersey Jug Futurity as a consultant with his father in 2005.

Shawn's family was his pride and joy, and he dearly loved them all. He also maintained a unique circle of close friends. He was a hard worker who had a passion for horses and basketball. He enjoyed roping with his sons and group of rodeo friends and built an arena on his own for the pleasure of all. This activity was only interrupted by basketball season, where he watched each game from the sidelines with arms crossed, ready to give his two cents worth of coaching.

In addition to his wife of 22 years, Jackie Bachelor of Orland, his mother, and brother, Cory (Stacy), he is survived by children, Layne Bachelor, a senior at Purdue University, Morgan Bachelor, a junior at Purdue, and Chase Bachelor, a senior at Prairie Heights High School; another brother, Curt (Jen) Bachelor of Angola; mother and father-in-law, Doug and Cheryl Johnson of Angola; brothers and sisters-in-law, Jeff and Joann Parrot of Fort Wayne, Jeremy Didier of Columbia City, and Jon Alan Didier; and many nieces, nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Stephen "Steve" Bachelor, and grandparents, Max and June Bachelor and Keith and Lila Holden.

The family takes comfort in knowing that Shawn is with his father in heaven waiting for each ball game to start the season.

Memorial donations may be directed to Prairie Heights Boys Basketball, c/o Brent Byler, 245 S. 1150 E., LaGrange, IN 46761.

H. Ward Nielsen

H. Ward Nielsen, Weston, Idaho, 89, passed away on October 6, 2022.

He was born on June 21, 1933, in Murray, Utah, to Herman C. and Vera Ward Nielsen. The eldest of five children, he grew up in Salt Lake Valley with his sisters Ann, Ruth, Mary Jo, and late brother, Lee. He married his sweetheart, Nancy Pendleton, on June 25, 1952, in Salt Lake Temple.

Nielsen had a love of cows from the onset. At the age of 14, he flew to eastern Canada, where he picked out a small herd of Registered Jerseys and traveled back to Utah with them by freight railway. Nearly every day for the next six decades, he milked his herd of Jersey cows.

The Niensens moved their herd of Jerseys from Granger, Utah, to Linrose, Idaho, in 1967, and developed an excellent herd of cows named Hawarden Jerseys Inc. The REAP herd has a 2021 lactation average (m.e.) of 21,551 lbs. milk, 1,076 lbs. fat and 844 lbs. protein and a herd average JPI of +20. With the herd appraisal in May 2022, the herd includes 41 Excellents and 79 Very Goods and has an average final score of 86.4%.

Hawarden Jerseys sent several bulls to A.I., including Hawarden Impuls Premier, one of the breed's early genomic standouts and the leading sire of Registered Jersey sons in 2012. His dam, Hawarden Jace Pix, was purchased by River Valley Farm and lived the rest of her days at the farm in Tremont, Ill.

Ward was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served in multiple leadership callings, including bishop and stake president. He and Nancy worked in the Logan Temple as ordinance workers and sealers and volunteered with the church's addiction recovery program.

Nielsen loved serving others. He sat on boards for the West Side School District and the Lewiston State Bank.

In addition to his wife and loving companion of 70 years and three sisters, he is survived by 13 children, Kristine (Paul) Lingard, Rebecca (Lorin) Jones, Lynette (Robert) Neary, Eric (Rexanne) Nielsen, Natalie (Phillip) Abrams, Clark (Dixie) Nielsen, Aleta (Michael) Phillips, Ray (Tori) Nielsen, Teresa (Daniel) Lindhardt, Pamela (Richard) Roskelley, Wynn (Bon-

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nie) Nielsen, Vance (Gina) Nielsen, and Tawnia (Lyle) Zilles. Additional survivors include 66 grandchildren, 129 great-grandchildren and four more on the way; and a great-great-grandchild on the way.

Annette Kay Ostrom

Annette Kay Ostrom, DePere, Wis., 49, passed away on October 19, 2022, surrounded by her loving family after a courageous battle with cancer.

She was born October 30, 1972, in Sheboygan Falls, Wis., a daughter to Gladys (Justinger) and the late Hans Palm. She attended Sheboygan Falls High School and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she received a degree in agriculture in 1995. She and James J. Ostrom married on December 28, 2007. They settled in DePere, where they raised four children.

In both her professional and private lives, Annette cared deeply about people and paid attention—a wonderful combination that uplifted all who knew her. She understood that when it came to a person's family, there were no "little things." Remembering the children's names of a friend or colleague were not enough. Annette knew their ages and life goals and thus built warm connections with everyone. That incandescent compassion could not overshadow a fierce strength that was never more apparent than during her brave fight with cancer. She never lost her grace, fortitude, or faith.

Annette was a beloved figure in the Wisconsin dairy industry, both as a long-time businessperson for Zoetis and member of the dairy cattle showing community. Just weeks before her passing, she was at the World Dairy Expo in Madison supporting family, friends, and her own highly successful show-cow team.

She was a co-founder of Dairy Cares of Wisconsin, a non-profit organization that raised more than \$2 million in support of Children's Wisconsin (formerly Children's Hospital of Wisconsin). In 2017, she and Jim received the Wisconsin Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser award from Dairy Cares.

Ultimately, nothing brought Annette more joy than watching her family grow and develop into outstanding young adults. Carlie, Mac, Shelby, and Tristen were sources of pride, inspiration, and good humor. Above all, motherhood and family were her touchstones.

In addition to her husband, four children, and mother, she is survived by brothers Dean (Ruth Ann) Palm, Howards Grove, and Larry (Kathy) Palm, DePere; sister Heidi (Tom) Haack, Sheboygan Falls;

mother-in-law Mary Bahlke, Watertown; father-in-law Donald (Linda) Ostrom, Oconomowoc; brothers-in-law Glenn (Irina) Ostrom, Greenville, Craig (Heidi) Ostrom, Wauwatosa, and Lance (Laurel) Ostrom, Concord, Mass.; and sister-in-law Sue Ellen (Mark) Pernitz, New Glarus; many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a charitable gift to Dairy Cares of Wisconsin, N3569 Vanden Bosch Road, Freedom, WI 54130.