



AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY *HALL* *OF FAME*

WEST VIRGINIA | 2024



***WILLIAM L. (BILL)
COFFINDAFFER***
— JANE LEW, WV

“ Success is leaving the world a better place than you found it. To me, that’s what’s important, not what I’ve achieved, but have I left where I’ve been a better place. ”

William L. (Bill) Coffindaffer began his extensive career in agriculture on a dairy farm in Harrison County. He regularly participated in agriculture projects through 4-H and FFA, showcasing berries and dairy animals at the State Dairy Show. After graduating high school in 1957, he began working at the WVU Dairy Farm while pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Dairy Science. After being called to the National Guard, he returned to WVU and completed his degree in 1963.

In 1964, Bill started at North Carolina State University as a Dairy Farm Superintendent, working for six years while also earning his Master of Agriculture degree. Desiring to return to West Virginia, he accepted a position as an Extension Agent in Preston County, where he worked for three years. During this time, he helped expand the Dairy Heifer Replacement Program and saw the Preston County Farm Bureau reinstated.

After another brief period in North Carolina, Bill returned to his home county, taking the position of Harrison County Extension Agent. He served in that role for 22 years, focusing on 4-H youth programming and the Jones Run Farm Club. Additionally, he served as the Secretary and Treasurer of the Harrison County Dairy Herd Improvement Association and was the State Dairy Show Farm Manager for seven years.

Bill’s family runs a cow-calf operation that prioritizes soil improvement and collaborates with NRCS on the Conservation Stewardship Program and Water Development. Even in retirement, Bill continues to serve on numerous agencies and boards, with his contributions significantly impacting the state and the many lives he has touched.