

## Don and Mida Peterson

**D**on and Mida Peterson were enshrined into the Hall of Fame as a team because their significant contributions to West Virginia agriculture are the result of their combined efforts.

The Petersons raise registered Angus cattle on their Rocking P Farm in Lewis and Upshur Counties. Not only do they have a strong partnership in the farm, but when one has a leadership role in a project or organization, the other lends full support.



As a youth, Don participated in national FFA and 4-H livestock judging contests. He became a life member of the American Angus Association two years before he graduated from Weston High School. After studying agriculture at West Virginia University for two years, he returned to the family farm in Horner. He married Mida in 1958, following her graduation from Glenville State College.

Through performance tests and sales in West Virginia, Ohio and Montana, their Angus bulls have been sold throughout the United States. By selling the offspring of their outstanding herd sires and sharing their bulls' genetics through artificial insemination, the Petersons have made substantial contributions to the improvement of Angus cattle in the state and nation.

Together, Don and Mida helped organize the W.Va. Beef Expo, and they continue to manage the Angus Show and Sale. They have given many 4-H members the opportunity to care for and show cattle owned by their farm.

Don has served as president of the W.Va. Association of Agriculture Industries, Lewis County and Upshur County Livestock Associations, W.Va. Cattlemen's Association and W.Va. Angus Association (for which he also served as secretary for 20 years).

After teaching health and physical education at Buckhannon-Upshur High School for 30 years, Mida retired in 1989 to devote full time to their farming enterprise. An 11-year 4-H member, she grew up on a livestock farm in Linn in western Lewis County. During her 42 years of membership in the Community Educational Outreach Service (the former Extension Homemakers), Mida held many local, county and state offices and is the current state council president.