

Harold T. Knotts



Howard T. Knotts was a 35-year veteran of the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA). At the WVDA, he served as director of both the Rural Resources Division and Publications Division, and was chairman of the WVDA's division directors. During that time, he designed and supervised construction of the Charleston Farmers' Market. He represented the WVDA in numerous organizations and associations, including the West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame, Mountain State Art and Craft Fair, Woodland Owners Association and Coyote Control Committee. He was on the board of directors of the West Virginia Poultry Association, Agricultural Industries Association and Future Farmers of America Alumni Association. He was elected national president of the Communications Officers of State Departments of Agriculture. He also moderated WVDA's "Today in Agriculture," a weekly television show.

A native of Clay County, he helped found and served as president of the Clay County Farm Bureau, Clay County Parks Project, Clay County Agriculture Youth Fair and the Big Otter Senior Center. After his death, Commissioner of Agriculture Gus Douglass said that, "Howard was one of those rare people who was always in your corner. For the many years he worked to improve West Virginia's agriculture, he developed a reputation as a man of his word and a dedicated worker who got the job done."