

# Paul E. Nesselroad



Paul E. Nesselroad was born February 19, 1924 in Sedan, Kansas. In 1938, his family moved to Ravenswood, WV where he became active in FFA, going on to serve as secretary, vice president and president of the State organization. In 1941, Nesselroad enrolled at WVU to study Agricultural Education. After enlisting in the U.S. Army, he returned to WVU in the fall of 1945 and graduated with a B.S. Degree in Agriculture two years later.

Following his 1947 graduation, he married Joanna Strosnider and they moved to Romney, WV where he taught Vocational Agriculture. He is credited with the revival of the FFA and Vocational program there. Mr. Nesselroad resigned from his teaching position in 1950 to begin graduate study in Ag Economics at WVU.

Mr. Nesselroad completed his coursework and accepted an appointment with the United States Treasury in Charleston, WV where he was responsible for the Educational and Agricultural aspects of the savings bond program.

In 1954, he was appointed a research assistant in Farm Management at WVU. During the late 1950s, as the state's broiler industry was going through rapid changes, Mr. Nesselroad did extensive study on the industry and reported on his research, and also served as the economist in the development of "A Plan for Revitalization of the Broiler Industry." In 1960, Mr. Nesselroad took a leave of absence from WVU to pursue further graduate work in Agricultural Economics and Farm Management at Penn State University. Nesselroad returned to WVU in 1963 as an Assistant Professor in Farm Management. He was a pioneer in the introduction of the computer into agricultural economics classrooms at WVU. In 1971 he was promoted to Associate Professor, in '76 to Professor of Agricultural Economics, and from 1983 until 1989 he served as the Chairman of the Department of Agricultural Economics.

Prior to his retirement, Mr. Nesselroad participated in the formation of WVU's Committee of Retired Faculty, and served several years as a member of the Board of Directors of the WVU College of Ag. He was awarded outstanding WVU Teacher in 1974-1975, FFA Honorary State Farmer in 1981 and was the recipient of the Gamma Sigma Delta Senior Faculty Member Certificate of Merit in 1985. In 2004 an endowed scholarship was given to the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design in recognition of Mr. Nesselroad's 33 years as a faculty member.