

## *Farrell Wankier*

Farrell Wankier's first association with Suffolk sheep came when he was 4 years old looking out the back of a Model A car, pulling a small 2 wheel trailer with 3 Suffolk ewes from Idaho in 1938. The ewes were from Michael Barclay of Idaho who was an acquaintance of his mother's.

Farrell was active with the Suffolks in both 4-H and FAA, going to many local shows and sales. As a State FAA Officer he continued to show and promote Suffolks.

Farrell attended and graduated from Utah State University in 1955 with a degree in Agriculture. While he was at Utah State University he was active on the livestock judging team. In part due to his extensive sheep background, he then was selected to go to Ecuador as a good will ambassador where he set-up a sheep improvement program. Upon returning from Ecuador and two years of service as an Officer in the Army he returned home to assist his father with the sheep and peruse his Master's Degree from Utah State University. He accepted a position with the National Wool Growers Association, the predecessor to ASI and worked there for 8 years managing many events and projects including the National Ram Sale.

Farrell served on the American Suffolk Sheep Society Board of Directors during the merger with the National Suffolk Sheep Association to form the United Suffolk Sheep Association and then served as President of the USSA. Farrell has been active in many other sheep affiliated organizations including California and Utah Wool Growers Association, National Scrapie Oversight Committee, Director of the Utah Farm Bureau, Chairman of the American Farm Bureau Sheep Advisory Committee and served on the committee appointed by the USDA that led to the formation of the American Lamb Board. In 2013 Farrell was awarded Master Shepherd of the Year by the California Wool Growers and Sheepman of the year by the Utah Wool Growers Association.

Farrell consigned to the National Ram Sale and was one of the original consignors of the Utah Ram Sale. He's has consigned and/or continues to consign to numerous sales including the Craig Ram Sale, California Ram Sale, Dixon California Ram Sale and Bakersfield Ram Sale. He has also consigned sheep to sales in New Mexico, Oregon, Southern Utah, Colorado and the Midwest Stud Ram Sale. In addition to sheep he consigned, he also held production sales in Des Moines for over 15 years and Junction, Texas for 2 years. Farrell's Suffolk sheep have gone to a majority of the states in the U.S. Also, for many years he exported thousands of Suffolk ewes and rams to Mexico.

Farrell and his wife Deanna have been married for 48 years and have four children, three daughters and one son and have 7 grandsons and one granddaughter, the oldest is 10 years old. Farrell and his wife reside in Salt Lake City, Utah.