

Roy & Joe Warrick

Roy B. Warrick was born December 21, 1906 on a farm in rural Wayne County, Iowa and later moved to a farm near Rose Hill, Iowa during his teens. He raised all kinds of livestock, but liked sheep the best.

After purchasing a place in Oskaloosa in the late 1930's, he got into the Hampshire sheep business, but was looking for another breed. He thought about the Columbia breed, but after talking to Phillip Rock of Drumheller, Alberta, Canada, he decided that Suffolk was the breed of the future because of their size, fast growth and lambing ease. Roy was a strong supporter of the Suffolk sheep business as Suffolk was a little known breed.

In the beginning, his early ewe flock was CPR ewes (Canadian Pacific Railway) that he bought from Phillip Rock. He obtained a ram, 118D, from Phillip and that ram produced the Warrick's own stud ram, 44F. Roy authored an essay entitled 'The Unequaled Record' that outlines the success of these sired by Warrick 44F and his progeny.

Roy was a director on the National Suffolk Sheep Association Board in the early 1950s and he also attended the American Suffolk Sheep Society meeting. Roy was also President and Board Member of the Iowa Suffolk Sheep Association. He also was a director from Iowa for the American Sheep Producers Council.

Roy sold and showed sheep from border to border, coast to coast and beyond. He showed sheep at the Calgary Stampede in 1960 and 1967. He had champion Suffolk ram and Supreme Champion. Roy held an annual production sales yearly over Memorial Day weekend from 1950-1969. Roy judged numerous sheep shows in the United States and Canada. He had a 'stockman's eye' for evaluating and judging livestock.

Roy died at age 62 in 1969. Roy is the father of two children, Joe Warrick and Joan Warrick White.

Joe Warrick was born December 18, 1940 in Oskaloosa, Iowa. Joe was introduced to the sheep business from day one. Joe learned how to care for sheep by watching his dad and doing things the way Roy wanted them done. There was an exception that you learn on the first try or that you should have already learned by observing what Roy did with the sheep. The expectation in the Warrick family is that care of the sheep comes first.

Joe initially cared for Hampshire sheep and added Suffolk sheep. The first Suffolk ewe that Joe owned was a gift from Phil Rock of Alberta, Canada.

Joe travelled with his father to multiple shows and sales over the U.S. and Canada. After his father's death, Joe carried on the tradition of hosting an annual Memorial Day weekend Suffolk production sale until the early 1990's. Joe continued to show at several major fairs and expositions. Joe remains an active sheep judge.

Joe served as President of the Mahaska County Sheep Producers and the Iowa Sheep Industry Association. He was a delegate from Iowa to the American Sheep Industry Association and is a current member of the Iowa Suffolk Sheep Association and the United Suffolk Sheep Association.

Joe met prominent individuals in the sheep business that had a positive influence on his life. Also, future leaders in the sheep business worked with the Warrick sheep while they were in college. These hired hands were like big brothers to Joe.

Joe maintains a flock of Suffolks and assists his daughter and son-in-law with Boer goats. Joe plans to remain in the sheep business to educate his grandchildren about the business.

Joe and Judy have two daughters, Jennifer Peterson (son-in-law Dr. Nathan Peterson) of Oskaloosa and Jean Warrick of Idaho Falls, Idaho. Joe has two grandsons, Reed and Tate Peterson.