

# *Hawkins Farm Suffolks*

## *Glen "Sadie" Hawkins & Joy Hawkins*

In 1955, Glen "Sadie" Hawkins and his son, Tom, began raising Suffolk sheep with the purchase of 20 head of ewes from Floyd Edwards. After Tom left for college in 1964, his sister, Joy, sold her Hampshires and began to invest in the Suffolks with her father; that brought on the flock name change from Glen Hawkins & Son Suffolks to Hawkins Farm Suffolks.

Some of the rams remembered by the Hawkins family include "Franchise", a Weimer bred buck, a ram purchased from Ben Huff and "D.A.", a ram purchased by Glen and Bud Forster from Kansas State in the early 1960s for \$1000. Many of the Hawkins Farm Suffolks ewes date back to Glen's breeding. Even after Joy took over the flock's management after her father was gone, she purchased very few ewes to bring into her flock. One ewe family of significant importance were decedents of "Spot", one of the last remaining ewes from her father. Joy rarely sold any ewes from that family.

Glen raised and exhibited a Reserve Champion Ram at the Grand National at the Cow Palace. This ram was also a part of the Suffolk flock exhibited by Glen when he was named Bell Winner at the Oregon State Fair. Glen also exhibited at the Pacific International.

Joy routinely consigned to the Midwest Stud Ram Sale, exhibited at the Oregon State Fair and frequently traveled to Louisville, Kentucky to attend the North American International Livestock Exposition. Joy raised several division champions and class winners at the Nugget All-American Sale and the Midwest Stud Ram Sale. In 2013 Joy was name the Gold Bell Winner at the Oregon State Fair. In addition to Joy's love for her sheep, she was also known as an avid sports fan.

Glen and Joy were both 4-H volunteers and each of them served as the leader of one of the oldest 4-H clubs in Oregon, the Greenback 4-H club; Sadie a leader for 30 years and Joy a leader for over 20 years. In addition to Glen's involvement with 4-H, he was a former past president of the Linn County Veterans Council, a member of the Oregon State University Extension Advisory Council and Oregon Sheep Commission, as well as past president and director of the Oregon Purebred Sheep Breeders. Glen was honored by the Oregon State Extension Service in 1979 for his outstanding support of that organization. Many individuals who knew Glen agreed that he contributed more to his community than he took out.

Joy taught high school English for 30 years and was very passionate about her students. In addition to her contributions to 4-H, Joy's love for the youth and Suffolks could be seen through her years of dedication to running Oregon's junior Suffolk program and her support of the National Junior Suffolk Association.

Glen passed away in 1986 of a heart attack while hauling sheep. Joy passed away in the spring of 2014 after an 8 year battle with cancer.

Hawkins Farm Suffolks genetics can be found throughout the United States; from coast to coast.