

# A Tribute To Huntingdon County Dairy Princess Tina Shultz

**Editor's Note:** This story about Huntingdon County dairy princess Tina Shultz is written by Betsy Stitt, who was one of Tina's friends. Through watching Tina at various events and talking with her, Betsy came to admire her strength and determination. The following is Betsy's tribute to Tina.

BY BETSY STITT

Blair County Correspondent

**JAMES CREEK** — June Dairy Month is here and with its arrival come thoughts of milk promotion and dairy princesses. One dairy princess in particular — Tina Shultz — will always reign in the memories of those who knew her.

As 1985-86 Huntingdon County dairy princess, Tina Shultz was probably one of the dairy industry's most devoted promoters. However, Tina lost her battle with bone cancer May 2.

The daughter of William and Ruby Shultz of James Creek, Tina began her fight against cancer in

November 1984. In March of the following year, she lost her left leg to cancer, but not her will to fight. She ran for and won the Huntingdon County dairy princess title.

Representing the dairy industry was something she had always wanted to do and she believed being a dairy princess was one of the best ways to do this.

During her reign Tina often worked herself to exhaustion promoting milk. Sometimes she felt guilty because she was unable to attend many events. Tina was very thankful for her alternate princesses Wanda Love and Lisa McMahon.

At the events she was able to attend, Tina was an inspiration to all with her enthusiastic smile and her determination to continue. An unselfish person, Tina often masked the pain she suffered to promote the dairy industry.

During her 17-month battle with cancer, Tina managed to maintain

an optimistic attitude. She continued to set goals for herself. One of those goals was to attend Penn State and to pursue a career in agriculture.

She tried to promote milk in every situation, even during her hospital visits. After one particular chemotherapy treatment, Tina became very sick. Finally she was able to drink some soda, but she was adamant that no one was to know that a dairy princess had been drinking soda.

Even in the last weeks of her life when she was suffering from terrible pain, she was looking forward...to graduating from high school, crowning her successor and, as always, promoting milk.

Tina once explained that she drew her strength from God. In daily prayer she thanked God for each additional day of life he gave her. She once said: "I know God has a plan for me, but I just don't know what it is yet." Maybe it was to teach others that they should be thankful for the things they have.

Tina will be greatly missed, for even on her worst days she was always ready to encourage others. Tina Shultz, a very special dairy princess, will continue her reign in the hearts of those who knew her.



Huntingdon County Dairy Princess Tina Shultz.

## Blair County Correspondent Betsy Stitt

Betsy Stitt is the staff correspondent for Blair and surrounding counties. She resides near Martinsburg in Blair County on the family dairy farm.

Betsy is a member of the Sue-Bets Farms dairy farming team. Along with her family they farm 420 acres and milk 75 registered holsteins.

Much of Betsy's life has revolved around those holsteins. As a youngster, she was a member of the Morrisons Cove 4-H Dairy Club, where she was able to show dairy cattle, something she enjoys. Later, Betsy became a member of the Central Cove FFA Chapter, in which she was very active. She was chapter vice president, served the state association as South Central vice president, and in November 1985 she received FFA's highest degree, the American Farmer Degree.

Betsy is convinced that dairy promotion is worth-while. She was the 1981 Blair County Dairy Princess, is a member of the



Betsy Stitt

dairy promotion committee and has served as secretary and co-chairperson for that organization.

Betsy graduated from Central High School in 1982 and is a member of the Grace Brethren Church.

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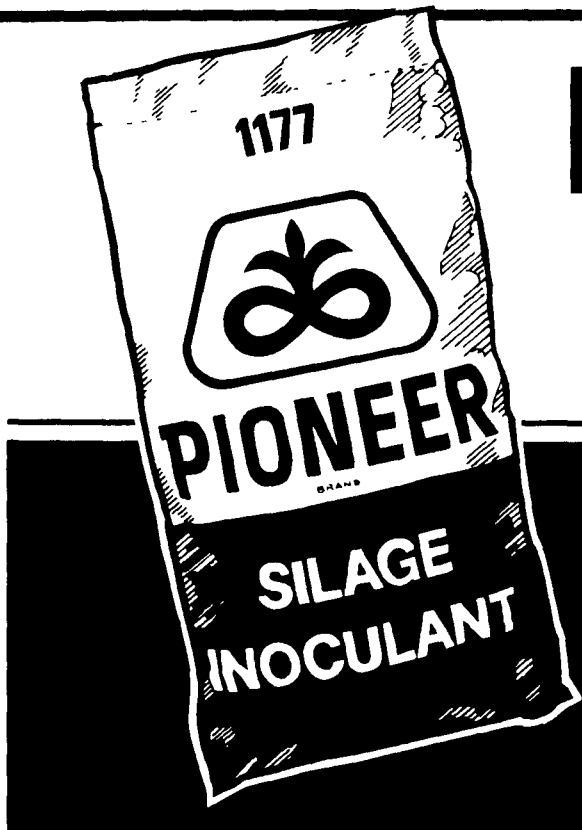
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