Fourth Generation Of Miller Family Lancaster Farming, Saturday, January 5, 2002-A37

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champion.

Bobby still has the letter from 1951 that he received after selling his second Farm Show market steer entry, a purebred Angus weighing 1,380 pounds. This steer, "Midnight," placed second in the light heavyweight class and sold to Hoover & Son of Lancaster Stockyards for \$567.26. This steer was also a member of the fourth place winner in the county trio competition. There were 20 teams in the trio competition that year.

Bobby's best and most memorable year of exhibiting steers at the Farm Show was in 1952 when his entry, "Culpepper," was selected as reserve champion of his division. At that time, the county purchased a group of steers and 4-H'ers were assigned a steer according to what number was drawn. This group of purebred Angus came from Brandy Rock Farm in Virginia.

Also, 1952 marked the year Bobby was named grand champion in the purebred Angus fitting and showmanship competition. He was presented with a wooden showbox filled with showing and fitting supplies. He still has the box with the showstick, combs, and brushes that were sponsored by the Pennsylvania Aberdeen Angus Breeders Association. Also in the box is the green and white striped coverall suit worn by Miller during the show. This was standard attire of the contestants at that time.

Bobby's wife, Fern, had shown market swine and many sewing projects on the local level and joined her husband exhibiting steers in 1956. She also had many sewing entries at the Farm Show and was quite impressed when the woolen dress with a jacket that she made while in high school won a second place ribbon. After Bobby was no longer able to participate in the 4-H competition, he still attended the Farm Show as "caretaker," as they were called in those days, for his cousins and their exhibit animals. He has since been the chaperone for many 4-H members from Carbon County while they stay at the complex to show their animals.

As the Miller children started their 4-H careers Bobby decided to enter some of his homebred market lambs in the carcass lamb competition and has been doing so ever since. His 1999 carcass lamb entry placed first in its weight class.

Over the years, children Danadee, Dean, Diane, and Deanna, then Dean's daughter, Sara, and now Diane's children, Christi and Luke, have kept the Miller's Farm Show tradition alive.

Bobby said the part he enjoys

most about the Farm Show is talking to the people you meet there and see each year. After not missing a Farm Show as either an exhibitor and/or spectator since 1950, there are many friends and acquaintances he looks forward to seeing at the Farm Show. Bobby's laugh can often be heard clear across the pig barn at the Farm Show as he socializes with his many friends.

When describing her brother, Luke, Christi said, "He looks like my daddy and acts like my pappy."

In that case, we can be assured the Miller family will be at ringside for many years to come, cheering for the next generation and socializing with their friends during Farm Show week.



Luke Graver, 9, with one of his project animals for the 2002 Pa. Farm Show. Luke will be competing in the junior market swine show with either a purebred Chester White or a purebred Landrace. This is the first year that Luke will compete at the Farm Show.

