

TRANSCRIPT: DAVID WINTERS INTERVIEW

David Winters · Owner of David Winters Livestock

TRANSCRIPT

An interview with Mr. David Winters, Owner of David Winters Livestock. Winters is a Class of 1964 Agricultural Economics graduate from Texas A&M and an inducted member of the Tyrus R. Timm Honor Registry.

This video was posted June 6, 2018 on the Tyrus R. Timm Registry YouTube Channel.

Please introduce yourself and tell us about your career.

My name is David Winters, I live in Del Rio, Texas. I was raised in Evant, Texas and I went to High School in Evant, Texas. Went to college and graduated from Texas A&M University, at the time it was A&M College of Texas. I was raised out on a combination of farm and ranch where we had cattle, sheep, goats, hogs. My parents, my father was a farmer/rancher, livestock trader. After I got out of high school, he bought a sale barn in Lampasas, Texas. I worked there. We had a sheep sale on Saturdays, in the summer we had a cattle sale on Wednesday. I was there every Wednesday and Saturday. Also, he ran cattle in Kansas, had a ranch in Colorado, before we had the sale barn we would head to Colorado in the summer and stay to about the middle of July. Then went to Kansas and shipped cattle until about the middle of August. I had a brother, he's passed away. Have 4 children, 3 boys and a girl. My wife is from Del Rio, Sarah Faucet-Winters. We have 9 beloved grandchildren, wonderful grandchildren.

What do you value most about your experience at Texas A&M?

The friendships that I created and developed over those years is friends I've still got. I've still got several of them as friends, we stay in contact with. The network of Aggies and the friendships that I developed over those years are the greatest things I got out of Texas A&M.

How has your degree from Texas A&M had an impact on your career?

It has opened doors that would not have ever been opened, access to people who I wouldn't have gotten to be with. If I hadn't been an Aggie, I wouldn't have been able to get through those doors, access to people.

What has been the biggest challenge in your career, and how have you faced it?

My biggest challenge has been trying to race the dry weather, also we buy land and trade it, twenty percent interest. Those were the two biggest challenges. I lost a son in a car wreck, and his mother. I guess that was the biggest challenge. But business challenge was the dry weather and twenty percent interest.

What is your proudest accomplishment in your career?

Raising my family. My proudest thing was paying my loans off, getting out of debt.

Besides hard work, what does it take to be a successful professional?

Be honest, truthful, fair to people, don't lie. Tell them the truth, your word is your bond.

David Winters | Transcript
Tyrus R. Timm Honor Registry | Department of Agricultural Economics | Texas A&M University

What kind of goals do you continue to set, and how do they help you to grow?

I try to set goals to slow down, take care of my health more. Do more things with my family.

How do you balance your career with your family life?

I put my family first, ahead of the career. I always have done that.

What advice do you have for Agricultural Economics students who are about to graduate and start their careers?

Don't be afraid to make a decision, but don't be afraid to change careers. Don't be locked into anything, just don't be hard headed. Do not be afraid to change careers, working for something else.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

I'd like to add that "good luck" is being prepared when the opportunity comes, staying ready to be prepared.

David Winters | Transcript
Tyrus R. Timm Honor Registry | Department of Agricultural Economics | Texas A&M University

Transcribed by
Grant Miller
September 18, 2020