



Dave Lease '79

Dave demonstrated a wide range of talents and interests while in high school. He was known for his time spent working with FFA projects, received numerous FFA awards, served as an officer in his local chapter, and received his FFA State Farmers Degree his senior year. Outside of his local FFA Chapter, Dave was elected as District II President and served on the FFA State Executive Committee. Additionally, Dave was on the football team, was a swing/show choir member, had parts in several musicals, and was a member of the National Honor Society.

Upon graduation, Dave went on to Vincennes University to study agri-business. His musical talent landed him a position in the University Roaring 20's traveling show choir. He graduated in '81 with an associate degree in agri-business and accepted his first job out of college working as a territory manager for White Farm Equipment Company. Dave moved on to Kubota Tractor Corporation in '86. At twenty-five years of age he became the youngest regional sales manager in the history of the company and continued serving that corporation for 33 years. He received numerous awards while developing and managing 53 new dealer accounts in a six-state area prior to his recent retirement in April '19. Throughout Dave's career he became known for mentoring new hires and helping them become successful in the company. Dave also returned to Vincennes several times to present to Agri-Business students regarding future career opportunities.

From 1991 - 2017 Dave and his father-in-law operated one of the first grass-fed, rotational grazing herds in Fulton County as part of an organic beef operation at C & L Farms. In 2004 C & L Farms received recognition for conservation from the Fulton County Soil and Water Conservation District. Dave continues to farm, but looks forward to having more time to devote to local interests in the community since retiring from Kubota.

Dave and Trinity, his wife of 34 years, reside in Rochester. They have three children: Amanda, Alexandra and Jason. They are active in the Rochester First Christian Church and Dave is also a member of the Rochester Masonic Lodge #79. Dave has served as a volunteer at Camp-We-Can and formerly served as one of ten construction captains for the construction of the Rochester Manitou Mountain playground.

