

# The Eastwood Hall of Fame 2023

## JOHN F. KURFESS

**John F. Kurfess served over 40 years on local and county School Boards. John was an early advocate for school mergers, which eventually became Eastwood School District in 1958. John helped start both Penta County Vocational School and Owens Community College in 1965.**

**John Frederick Kurfess was born to Jacob and Elizabeth, being a lifelong resident on Dowling Rd., Wood County. John graduated from North Troy High School, John married Margaret Zingg celebrating 65 years of marriage, having four children: Nancy, Charles F. (Chuck), Jim and John D. Kurfess; 13 grandchildren and six great grandchildren when John passed in 1990. Margaret also was a school teacher for 15 years. John was active in St. John's Lutheran Church, Stony Ridge.**



- Served on North Troy (Lemoyne) School Board starting 1937; Troy-Luckey until 1958 when he helped with the merger to form Eastwood School District. Wood County Board of Education -16 yrs., 1958-74.
- Charter Board / Trustee member for Penta County Vocational School and Owens Community College in 1965, promoting vocational education to provide affordable, high-quality education / training, connecting with business / industry, to improve the quality of life and progress for NW Ohio Region.
- First recipient of the Wood Co. Spirit Award for Education and Civic Responsibility in 1987.
- Farmed and raised livestock (mainly dairy cattle) over 50 yrs. on his Dowling Road homestead.
- Board member of the Wood Co. Farm Bureau Co-Op. Inc.; Northern Ohio Breeder's Assn.; Ohio Agricultural Marketing Assn.; and Farmer's Savings Bank, Stony Ridge. Active with Luckey Kiwanis Club.