

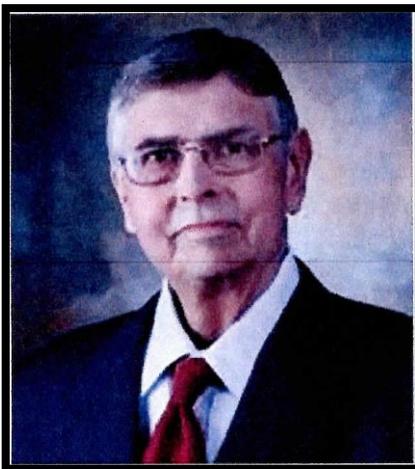


PANHANDLE STATE
FOUNDATION

Paul and Lynda Hitch Art Scholarship

Est. 2016

OPSU's Images Art Club established the Paul and Lynda Hitch Art Scholarship. The scholarship was named in honor of Paul and Lynda due to their outstanding support of the OPSU art program and the Paul Farrell Memorial Art Auction over the years.



Paul Hitch

May 25, 1943 March 14, 2008 (age 64)

Guymon, Oklahoma - Paul Henry Hitch, 64, passed away early Friday, March 14th, 2008, at Baptist-St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo, Texas, following a courageous battle with cancer.

The son of Annie Laurie (Lala) (Moores) and Henry Charles (Ladd) Hitch, Jr., Paul was born May 25, 1943, in Liberal, Kansas. He attended school in Guymon until high school at which time he transferred to Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Missouri, for his final two years, graduating in 1961. Upon graduation, Paul attended Oklahoma State University where he completed his degree in animal science within the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. After completing his undergraduate degree in 1965, he moved to Palo Alto, California, to complete a Master's in Business Administration at Stanford University.

Paul was united in marriage to Lynda Lou Surguy on July 22, 1967, in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. After the wedding, the couple resided in Guymon, where Paul had

already joined his father and grandparents at Hitch Enterprises, Inc., the family's agriculture business. During his lifetime in the business, Paul saw the business grow from cattle feeding into a credit corporation, cattle buying services, commodity services, and pork operations. He became President of the business in 1978 and assumed the additional title of Chairman of the Board in 1996, positions he held until his death. His dedication to the business was obvious as he worked every day until his last.

Within the cattle industry, Paul was active at both state and national levels serving in various leadership capacities for Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association, Texas Cattle Feeders' Association, and National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), including most recently holding the position of President-Elect for NCBA. Paul was also active in the pork industry, and his efforts there were recently honored by the Oklahoma Pork Council with an induction into the Oklahoma Pork Council Hall of Fame.

At the community level, Paul believed in giving back, as evidenced by his active participation in numerous organizations over the years including the Guymon Chamber of Commerce, the board of City National Bank & Trust, Inc., the board of the Texas County Family YMCA, and PROAG. At the state level, Paul was a member of the Oklahoma State University Foundation Board of Governors, the Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce, and the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs. Additionally, he served for six years on the Oklahoma Board of Agriculture.

Paul's church, Victory Memorial United Methodist Church of Guymon, was also important to him. He served on countless committees over the years and also acted as a local and state layperson representative for state and national Methodist conferences. Paul also served as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation.

Paul is survived by his mother, Lala Hitch; wife, Lynda Hitch; two sons, Jason Hitch and wife, Sara; Chris Hitch and wife, Brooke; and grandson, Tyler Hitch, all of Guymon. Additionally, he is survived by his sister, Jane and husband, Clark

Willingham of Dallas, Texas; an aunt, Joyce Gray of Guymon; mother-in-law, Opal Surguy of Owasso, Oklahoma; and many other extended family members. Paul was preceded in death by his brother, James Charles Hitch, and his father, Henry Charles (Ladd) Hitch, Jr.