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Retiree Spotlight

*Milo Shult
Louise Walker*

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Milo Shult Keeps One Foot in Texas and One in Arkansas

Dr. Milo Shult worked for the Cooperative Extension Service in Texas at A&M for 20 years, then went on to work for Extension in Arkansas for nearly 19.

“I root for the Aggies and I root for the Razorbacks. And when they play each other, I can’t lose,” he joked.

Shult retired on Jan. 3, 2011, and he and his wife moved to Doss, Texas, in the fall of that year. They bought some land in Doss many years earlier for hunting and built a house there. They decided to move there to retire, but as Shult said, “We didn’t leave Arkansas for any lack of love for the state.”

Shult first came to work in Arkansas as Vice President for Agriculture in Little Rock. He was also responsible for the experiment stations.

Even in retirement, Shult is involved in Extension-related organizations. He’s chair of



Milo Shult

the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics advisory board, which provides advice to the USDA. Shult is also chairman of the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute Board and part of the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET) at Texas A&M.

When asked if that was just about everything, Shult added: “Well, I also ran for the local school board. And I’m now the secretary.

“I know. I may need to have my head

examined. But it keeps me alert and alive!”

Shult is also busy taking care of 240 acres populated by cows, calves and bulls as well as lots of wildlife. He likes to hunt and enjoyed spending time out in the woods with his son and grandkids – a girl and a boy – over the Thanksgiving holiday. His wife of 48 years, Ann, loves photography, so she enjoys nature as well.

Shult is a tremendous dog lover, and the activity that brings him the most peace is hopping on a Kawasaki Mule every evening with a yellow lab named Chad and making the rounds on their ranch.

Shult said he enjoys his life, busy as it is.

“Contributing and trying to be helpful is in my DNA,” he said.

To reconnect with Dr. Shult, contact him at (501) 258-2540, P.O. Box 30, Doss, Texas 78618.

– Shannon Magsam

Retirement Hasn't Slowed Down Louise Walker

About 10 months after Louise Walker retired from Extension in 2002, she went to work for the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture.

She's now a supervisor in the organization with 12 employees. Walker covers 17 counties and drives quite a bit. Not that she minds.

Walker just logged about 4,500 miles last month when she and her husband of 48 years, David, took a road trip through states like Idaho and Washington. She said the fall foliage was amazing in Seattle.

Walker joked that her job description at NASDA is "harassing farmers." She and the other employees gather information from the farmers about things like acreage, livestock/crop production and farm management practices.

She's no stranger to working with farmers. In 1965, Walker went to work for Extension in Hamburg as assistant home demonstration agent. She shortly moved to Drew County and then to Phillips County, working in the same position. She met her husband in Phillips County. David Walker was the chief engineer for a local radio station. There was a satellite station at the Extension office since the staff had a daily show. Their first date was David flying them up and down the Mississippi River

in a little plane. She had never flown before. They married three months later.

After Phillips County, she and her new husband moved to Madison County, where Walker was a home economist - family and consumer sciences. The couple waited a while to have children, then they had four.



Louise Walker

While pregnant with her first child, Walker left Extension for a while beginning in 1971.

"Now I've got a house full of grandkids," Walker said.

Their oldest grandchild is 25 and the youngest is five months. There are nine total, and they'll all be celebrating Christmas together on the 27th. (A little aside: The grandkids have some big educational shoes to fill. The Walkers, their four children and their kids' spouses have 19 degrees among them – all from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.)

Six years after their first child was born, Walker went to work in Hereford, Texas, as a county Extension agent. She returned to Arkansas Extension in 1985, working in family and consumer sciences again in Columbia County. A year later, she moved to Sevier County. She worked there until retirement.

The Walkers live in Van Buren, and when she's not working or visiting with family, Louise Walker enjoys cooking and eating. As previously mentioned, she also loves traveling. She and Becky Reynolds, who recently retired as an Extension agent, have been road-tripping quite a bit.

"My job is intermittent," she said. "I can take several weeks off at a time."

Walker also travels with her only daughter – a marathoner attempting to run races in every state. Over the summer, they enjoyed a trip to Florida together.

To reconnect with Louise Walker, contact her at (479) 474-3157, 6330 Hilltop Road, Van Buren, Ark. 72956-7606.

– Shannon Magsam

Condolences

Sympathy is extended to Ray Benz and family on the loss of son Raymond Charles Benz, Jr. on Nov. 26.



*Best wishes for the Holiday
Season and a Happy New Year*

From your Editorial Board

Stan Chapman

Lorraine Hupp

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Lott Rolfe, III

Earl Wilson

William Woodall

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January Birthdays

Kelly Gage, Jan. 1
Ruby Kozel, Jan. 2
Betty Harrison, Jan. 3
Van Stakemiller, Jan. 6
Alva Ray Siler, Jan. 8
Keith Martin, Jan. 9
Fann Woodward, Jan. 9
Steve Culp, Jan. 11
Helen Nowlin, Jan. 12
Ricky Thompson, Jan. 14
C. C. Schaller, Jan. 15
Shirley Bennett, Jan. 17
Glenna Duffel, Jan. 17
Dianne Knuteson, Jan. 17

Bobby Malone, Jan. 17
Shirley Cleek, Jan. 18
Dot Temple, Jan. 18
Jerry Williams, Jan. 20
Marvin Wall, Jan. 21
Ramona Gordon, Jan. 23
Donna Rinke, Jan. 23
Barbara Ball, Jan. 24
Laura LaRue, Jan. 24
Nina Coffee, Jan. 25
Margie Jones, Jan. 25
Don Wiley, Jan. 25
Gary Huitink, Jan. 29
Lois Perkins, Jan. 29

Goodbye and Good Wishes

We will soon be losing the services of two people who have been invaluable to us as we bring the *Extension Cord* to you each month. Elizabeth (Liz) Childs, development associate, and Donna Rinke, web development associate, will both retire from Extension at the end of December. Liz has kept up-to-date contact information on Extension personnel who have retired and has been our go-to person for information about retirees and the retiree scholarship. Donna has posted the newsletter to the web and often caught errors that we would have missed. Best wishes to both of you, and we hope to see you at Galaxy.



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