

Martin Ryan Agriculture Scholarship



Marty



Farming was Marty's life! He was a kind and simple man who would share his stories and knowledge which always included valuable life lessons. Marty was committed to his family, farm, and community. He grew up on his family farm in Mercer County and started farming at an early age with his dad and brother. Their first fields were planted and plowed with horse-drawn equipment. In 1958, Marty established Ryan Farms. This was home where he raised his six children and where he continued to farm for 65 years.

Marty enjoyed farm life and working the land with his family by his side. He was known for his top-quality farm, livestock, and crops. He watched the industry grow and develop over decades. Marty was a progressive farmer who implemented new techniques and advanced technology to innovate on his farm. He took time to share his knowledge and help others.

The Martin Ryan Agriculture Scholarship honors "Marty" a lifelong crop and livestock owner of Ryan Farms (Viola, Illinois). This scholarship recognizes his contributions and reflects his values. Marty's belief in education and opportunity is the inspiration for this scholarship given to students from Western Illinois applying to a trade school, university, or college in pursuit of a career in an agricultural field.

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