

David Miers – Greensburg High School Class of 1965

David graduated from Greensburg High School in 1965. He is currently President of Miers Farm Corp and manages and operates 2000 acres of cropland in the Decatur County area. The Miers Farm has been operated by the same family for 190 years in Decatur County. David received a B.S. in Ag Economics from Purdue University in 1970. Since graduation he has served as President of the Purdue Ag Alumni Assoc., President of the Indiana Farm Management Association and has been a Purdue Alumni Board of Directors member. While attending Purdue he was a member of Purdue ROTC and upon graduation was a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army from 1970-1972.

Greensburg is known for the great volunteers that make our community strong. His desire to volunteer has played a major role throughout his adult life. David's Community Service positions have been many since his return to our community. He has served as President of the following organizations in Decatur County: YMCA Board, Historical Society Board, Hospital Foundation Board, South Park Cemetery Board, Decatur County BZA Board, and Main Street Greensburg Board, which he was a co-founder.

David has also served as Chairman of the following non-profit activities: The United Fund Annual Campaign, Hospital Capital Campaign, Purdue Ag Alumni Steak Fry, YMCA Major Gifts Capital Campaign, and Greensburg Methodist Church Finance and Investment Committee.

David is active in Community Leadership positions such as being a member of: the Greensburg/Decatur County Chamber of Commerce, the EDC Board, the Decatur County Foundation Board, and the MainSource Bank Board of Directors.

David has also been active in State Politics and has served as Indiana Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture and has been a past President of the Indiana State Fair Commission.

David has a great desire to serve others in the community and this has led to him being recognized with many community and state awards. These include:

Decatur County Ag Hall of Fame, Sagamore of the Wabash, Purdue Distinguished Ag Alumni Award, Purdue University ROTC Hall of Fame, State of Indiana Century Business Award, Decatur County United Fund Volunteer of the Year, Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award, Prairie Farmer Indiana Master Farmer Award, and the Certificate of Distinction from the Purdue Alumni Association.

David is accompanied by his wife Mary.

Stan Mavis – Greensburg High School Class of 1973

Stan Mavis was born in Greensburg, Indiana in 1955. While still a toddler, he and his family moved away and eventually moved back to Greensburg in 1968 at age 13. "Greensburg was an excellent place to grow up. The school system was a great mix of 'city' kids and farm kids. The farm kids; due to the natural chore needs of life on the farm, had an incredible work ethic. It seemed like nothing was impossible for them. I think that must have spilled over to us 'city' kids. This was a great foundation which continues to influence me to this day." said Mavis. "Plus, the school system was loaded with teachers and coaches who were totally passionate about their vocation. They also made a huge difference for me. I am sure that I will forget someone in listing them, but teachers Judith Richey, George Rupp and Coaches Keith Greve and Steve House all had a positive long lasting impact on me. I would assume that the tradition they established at Greensburg High continues to this day." he added.

After being recruited by Greve to run cross country his freshman year, Mavis discovered his love of running. As a senior, he went undefeated for the season winning the IHSAA state cross country title. He went to Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan on an athletic scholarship. During his senior year he met 1972 Olympic Marathon champion, Frank Shorter. At the time Shorter had an apparel company; Frank Shorter Running Gear, and specialty running stores Frank Shorter Sports. Both were bellwether businesses at the beginning of the US fitness movement. Upon graduation, Mavis moved to Boulder, Colorado to work with Shorter; first at the stores and eventually the clothing company. He continued to train and race; setting a world record for the Half Marathon in 1980 (1:02:16). The US/Moscow boycott and an ankle fracture in 1984 precluded any Olympic hopes, but his work with Shorter firmly created the base for his future.

The opportunity and experience in Boulder clearly established him in the product creation side of the sporting goods industry. He has always been a visionary and builder of brands and innovative product. He went on to pioneer the nylon Lycra running tight and compression shorts with the Hind brand and eventually co-founded Pearl Izumi cycling apparel in the USA in 1988. From the start to when he sold his shares in the company in 2000, Pearl Izumi became the standard for innovation and quality in cycling; growing both the company and overall category globally. Good or bad; dependent on your perspective, he was the first to develop neon colors in sports clothing in 1990.

Mavis then held executive product positions at both ASICS and Brooks running. While at Brooks, he was part of the team that accomplished a huge turnaround of a near bankrupt brand to a running specialty market leader and successful sale to Russell Corporation. He then moved to SUGOI performance apparel in Vancouver, BC Canada to lead the subsidiary for the Cannondale bicycle brand; profitably selling to the Dorel Group. At every stop in his career, his tenacity and attention to detail created both industry leading innovation and better product solutions for consumers.

In 2012 he joined the Giant bicycle brand, based in Taiwan. His latest challenge. After three years of "commuting" from Seattle; he and his wife, Bonnie, moved to Taichung, Taiwan earlier this year. Mavis leads the team creating product for global distribution for all "Gear" products; which includes everything like wheel systems, saddles, computers and lights to helmets, footwear and pumps. In 2015 Giant will double their Gear business from the time Mavis joined. Giant is the largest single bicycle brand in the world, with 15 wholly owned subsidiaries selling to approximately 12,000 specialty bicycle shops in virtually every part of the world.

“My days in Greensburg totally ingrained in me that ‘you are only as good as your next race’. Meaning that the race result or product you created today may be great and something to celebrate, but there is always something better around the corner and you should always look ahead”. Mavis added

Dr. Richard Hellmich – Greensburg High Class of 1973

Dr. Hellmich has always had an interest in insects, probably spurred on by his father Dick who was known throughout the county for his collection of honey bees. He followed that interest to DePauw University to study Zoology and receive his BA in 1977 and later to The Ohio State University where he received his PhD in Entomology in 1983. Dr. Hellmich can be characterized as a true scientist in the field of Entomology. His areas of expertise include: corn insect ecology and genetics, genetically engineered corn, insect resistance management, plant –insect interactions, environmental risk assessment of non-target insects, monarch butterfly habitat restoration, honey bee genetics and behavior, and African honey bee mating and ecology.

Dr. Hellmich does his research for the United States Department of Agriculture as part of the Agriculture Research Service. He is a Research Entomologist in Ames, Iowa. He serves as an Assistant Professor at Iowa State University.

Professional Appointments

USDA–ARS, Corn Insects and Crop Genetics Research Laboratory, Ames, IA

Research Entomologist: 1994-present.

Department of Entomology, Iowa State University, Ames, IA

Postdoctoral Research Associate: 1993-1994, USDA Collaborator, Assistant Professor: 1995-present

Department of Zoology and Genetics, Iowa State University

Postdoctoral Research Associate: 1991-1993 (Molecular Genetics)

USDA–ARS, Honey Bee Breeding, Genetics & Physiology Laboratory, Baton Rouge, LA

Research Entomologist: 1983-1991 (Africanized honey bee genetics and ecology)

Department of Entomology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Graduate Research Assistant: 1981-1983, Graduate Teaching Associate: 1979-1981

Awards and Recognition

Scientist of the Year 2002, USDA, Agricultural Research Service, Midwest Area, 2002

USDA Secretary's Group Award for contributions to a science-based assessment of Bt corn and the monarch butterfly, 2002

National IPM Team Award, Entomological Foundation, 2011 & 2013

Scientific Publications

Total (188); Peer Reviewed Articles (132); Book Chapters (13)

Extramural Funding

Total 19 years in Ames, Iowa - \$4,810,000 (\$1,730,000 to ARS)

Invited Presentations

International (33, 20 countries); National (83); Regional and State (35)