Dr. Daryl F. Kraft

Daryl grew up on the family cattle ranch southwest of Medicine Hat. He attended Mount Royal College in Calgary on a football scholarship. In 1968 he graduated with Honours from the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Agriculture, with a Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Economics and in 1975 he was awarded a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Washington State University. He joined the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Manitoba in 1973.

From the very beginnings of this country, agriculture has played a major part in both the Canadian and Manitoba economies; and in the area of agricultural economics over the last 25 years, both nationally and provincially, Daryl Kraft emerged as an outstanding educator and a leading figure in his field. He had a gift for clear analysis and his work encompassed a broad range of substantial studies on rural real estate markets, agricultural production, various dimensions of agricultural policy, and international trade. His knowledge and research – and his accessibility – made him an invaluable advisor to both farmers and government and he worked closely with industry, federal and provincial governments on numerous policies and projects. The media too used Daryl Kraft as a resource knowing they would receive nothing less than candid, substantiated information for their reports. His breadth and depth of understanding of the agricultural industry was astounding.

University Service

Daryl was a man of exemplary honesty and integrity who would have wished, above all, to be remembered as an educator of young people. He was, in fact an outstanding teacher of both undergraduate and graduate students.

To quote one of Daryl’s graduate students, “although Dr. Kraft’s industry knowledge and research brilliance made him a recognized leading Agricultural Economist in the world, one of his major strengths was his focus - his ability to wrap his mind intimately around the issue at hand and to draw up the research parameters better and faster than anyone else. In a field where objectivity is not only an important characteristic but an essential one, Dr. Kraft was able to maintain his unswervingly.”

At the University he served on Senate, and a number of University and Faculty of Agriculture committees. As a member of the Department of Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics he served on virtually every departmental committee and in its major administrative roles. He served as Director of the Solomon Sinclair Farm Management Institute and was Acting Head of the Department on two occasions in the 1980s and 1990s, and was Head of the Department from July 1997 to June of 2003.

Honours & Awards

The American Agricultural Economics Association recognized Daryl for excellence in research with the Outstanding Ph.D. Thesis Award in 1975. In 1983 Daryl received the University of Manitoba Outreach Award for Community Service. In 1984 Daryl received an award for the Outstanding Journal Article in the Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics by the Canadian Agricultural Economics and Farm Management Society. In 1999 Daryl was named a Fellow of the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society. In May of 2003 Daryl received the Teaching Award of Merit from the National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture.

Daryl was inducted into the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame in July 2004 for his outstanding contributions to agriculture and the betterment of rural living in Manitoba.
Colleagues, friends and family of Dr. Daryl F. Kraft have established an endowment fund at the University of Manitoba to encourage clear and objective discussion of agricultural issues in Canada. The Fund will provide an opportunity for individuals and institutions in agriculture management and communication. A man of great strength, both physical and moral. He was thoughtful, soft-spoken, and unfailingly kind in his dealings with others. He possessed a fine mind and a man of sound and considered judgment, a man possessed of wisdom. He was admired and respected by all who knew him.

For recognition purposes, I/we wish to remain anonymous.

An official tax receipt will be mailed under Revenue Canada Taxation Registration # 11926-0669-RR0001. The information you have provided will be collected and maintained by the university in order to facilitate communication and assist in our advancement and development efforts.

Dr. Daryl F. Kraft
Endowment Fund

Public Service

Dr. Daryl F. Kraft
Endowment Fund

http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/afs/dep/agribusiness/