

The 2017 Moffat County Fair is dedicated to MJK Sales & Feed and The Lonnie Kawcak Family

The Moffat County Fair Board is proud to dedicate the 2017 Moffat County Fair to MJK Sales and Feed, Inc., and The Lonnie Kawcak Family. For over 40 years, MJK Sales and Feed, Inc. and the Lonnie Kawcak Family have supported the Moffat County Fair and the Junior Livestock Sale. They also continue to support Moffat County FFA and 4-H, along with our community and our County Fair.

Lonnie Kawcak was born and raised in Craig, Colorado. While growing up, Lonnie was active in 4-H and FFA. He graduated from Moffat County High School in 1969 and continued his education at Trinidad State Junior College where he graduated with an Associate's Degree in Agriculture.

Lorraine was raised in Idaho Springs, Colorado. Lorraine graduated from Clear Creek High School in 1973 and attended Mesa College, in Grand Junction. She moved to Craig in 1977 where she met Lonnie while working for Colowyo Coal. They were married in 1978.

Lonnie and Loraine were blessed to have raised two boys, Blaine and Blake. They were very involved in 4-H, FFA and the Moffat County Fair all their lives. Both boys loved raising and showing hogs, lambs and steers. 4-H and FFA open doors that they didn't even know existed. They learned invaluable lessons about life along the way, from keeping a checkbook at the early age of 8, to breeding and raising animals. Some of their favorite memories are traveling as a family to Jackpots during the summer, seeing the country and meeting lifelong friends. Raising and showing animals was a family affair for the Kawcak's. Neither Lonnie or Lorraine showed animals growing up so they learned alongside their boys.

Both boys were offered Collegiate Livestock Judging Scholarships. Blaine attended and graduated from Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis, Nebraska. Blake attended and graduated from Casper College in Casper Wyoming. Being a

member of a livestock judging team was an opportunity that they wouldn't have had if it weren't for their involvement in 4-H and FFA.

In 1976 Lonnie and his parents started MJK Sales and Feed on School St. in Craig. In 1977 they bought the grain elevator on Ranney St., built a hardware store and moved their operation to Ranney St. Over the next 40 years, they have been in business with both of Lonnie's brothers and son, Blake. Their son, Blaine, joined the business after he graduated from college. Lonnie and Lorraine were business partners for most of their marriage. In 2012 they built a new Ace Store on 1st St. and moved the hardware store to that location. The lumber and feed division are still located on Ranney St. At the time of Lonnie's death, he was still running MJK Sales and Feed with Lorraine and Blaine.

MJK Sales and Feed, Inc. won the Large Business of the Year Award in 2008 from the Craig Chamber of Commerce, at the State of the Community dinner. Over the years they received numerous awards and recognitions from Ace Hardware.

Lonnie, Lorraine, and the boys have attended the Moffat County Fair and Junior Livestock Sale since they started doing business in 1976. Over the years, they have also supported the Junior Livestock Sale in Routt, Rio Blanco, Jackson, Carbon and Grand Counties. Now, they buy at the Carbon County, Routt, and Rio Blanco County Junior Livestock Sale. They also sponsor a Sheep Breeding Award at the Moffat County Fair.

The Kawcak Family has been involved in sponsoring show clinics for the livestock kids in Northwest Colorado that show animals. Lorraine served on the Moffat County Fair Board, and was also a 4-H Leader for Sewing and Decorate Your Duds. She has helped with the Fashion Revue and has helped in the Pavilion as a superintendent assisting the judges. She has also traveled to other counties judging their county Fashion Revue.

MJK Sales and Feed, and the Kawcak Family are most recently known for organizing and acquiring belt buckle sponsors each year for the Moffat County Fair. Belt buckles are awarded to 4-H and FFA members that show animals at fair and for shooting sports. Belt buckles are awarded for market classes, shooting sports, and showmanship. The Kawcak's and employees at MJK Sales and Feed call and get all the sponsors, order over 100 buckles, organize and have them ready to go in time for the Moffat County Fair in August.

The Moffat County Fair, 4-H, FFA and showing animals have always and will always hold a special place in the Kawcak's hearts. They cherish the memories they have from fair. It was always a family time for them, learning, raising animals, traveling the

country and spending time with friends and the community at the Moffat County Fair. They very much appreciate and are very thankful for the community that support their business. The Kawcak family would like to thank everyone for this prestigious fair dedication.

It is with extreme pleasure and gratitude we, the Moffat County Fair Board, dedicate the 2017 Moffat CountyFair to MJK Sales and Feed, Inc., and the Lonnie Kawcak Family. Thank you for your dedication and support of the Moffat County Fair!

