

For 50 years the *Golf  
for Scholarships* outings

have been one of the primary fundraising activities for the Ohio AgriBusiness Association Educational Trust scholarship program, through which nearly \$35,000 in scholarships is provided annually to students enrolled in an agriculture-related field attending The Ohio State University and OSU Agricultural Technical Institute, Clark State Community College and Wilmington College.



2015 Honoree  
**Daryl Gates**



August 19, 2015  
Sidney, Ohio

# Daryl Gates, 2015 Ohio AgriBusiness Association Educational Trust Honoree

**D**aryl Gates, today's honoree, was born and raised in Galion, Ohio, the fourth of five children of Boyd and Miriam Gates. Daryl met his future wife Valerie at Galion High School and they were married in 1973 while both were attending The Ohio State University. Daryl graduated from OSU's College of Business with a BS in Finance in 1974 and started his career soon after at Plant Life Services in Marion, Ohio.

After working at Plant Life for seven years Daryl joined International Minerals and Chemical (IMC) in 1981 and was soon promoted to Regional Manager in the Chicago area. After having their first two children Grant and Brett, Daryl and Valerie decided to move back to Marion in 1987 where Daryl would take a position with Morral Chemical to help Dick Fetter manage the company. In 1994 Daryl helped arrange a joint venture sale for the Fetters and Daryl would become President and CEO of Morral, a position he holds to this day.

While at Morral Daryl has continued the tradition of the company being a pillar in the agribusiness community. He is particularly

proud of when the company was honored as the Agricultural Retailers Association Retailer of the Year in North America in 2013. In addition to his contributions at Morral, Daryl has taken numerous opportunities to advance agribusiness at large. Daryl is a former board member and past chairman of OABA, former board member of the Agricultural Retailers Association and current board member of The Fertilizer Institute and the Central Ohio Farmers Co-Op. He has also participated with the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Ag Water Quality Committee and Governor's Advisory Committee.

In the community, Daryl has taken nearly every chance to advance the causes of many. He is a former board member of the Marion YMCA, the River Valley Board of Education and Marion General Hospital. His current memberships include the Marion Area Chamber of Commerce, the Marion Area Red Cross, the Marion General Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees, Marion Rotary Club, Trustee and Current Chairman of The Ohio State University-Marion, Team Member for the Morral Companies Relay for Life Team, the United Way Pillars Club and the Ohio Commodores.

Woody Hayes said "You can never pay back, so you should always try to pay forward", a mantra Daryl has taken to heart. Being the first in his family to attend college, he has always seen great importance in advancing causes such as the OABA in helping young people attend college.

Daryl and his wife Valerie have been married for 41 years and have four children and three grandchildren. Being the father of four boys (Grant, Brett, Blake and Brock) meant plenty of hours helping coach basketball, baseball, soccer and golf. In his spare time you're likely to see Daryl playing with his grandchildren, reading, playing golf, watching the Buckeyes or one of his long, long, long suffering Cleveland teams, or tuned into his 4756th viewing of Forrest Gump.

The Ohio AgriBusiness Association is pleased to recognize Daryl Gates as the 2015 OABA Educational Trust Honoree.

