

Lawrence E. Dietze Memorial Scholarship

Lawrence Edward Dietze was born on September 12, 1910, in DeWitt County, and died on September 12, 1982, in DeWitt County at the age of 72. He graduated from Cuero High School in 1929 where he excelled in sports and earned an athletic scholarship; however, his college career was cut short when his father, Edward B. Dietze, became ill, necessitating his return to DeWitt County to take over the family dairy.

Over the next 35 years, he ran 100 head of Jersey and Holstein cows as well as 100 head of beef cattle. He also raised cotton, milo, and corn. In all, he farmed and ranched over 1,000 acres of land in DeWitt County. He was the definition of what it means to be a farmer, rancher, and dairyman. The dairy alone employed three families as well as numerous high school boys. Cows were milked twice a day, seven days a week, and 360 quart-sized glass bottles of milk were delivered seven days a week to homes, restaurants, and bakeries in Cuero.

Mr. Dietze was a respected businessman and community leader, serving on the DeWitt County Producers Coop board of directors, including serving as board president, and serving on the Cuero ISD board of trustees, including serving as board president. It was during his tenure as school board president when Daule School integrated with Cuero schools, an accomplishment of which he was tremendously proud.

Mr. Dietze was a faithful member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church and a devoted husband and father. He married Violet Semmler in 1936, and together they had two children, Majie and Errol John. Errol John and his son, Johnny, both became practicing attorneys, but they never wavered from their agricultural roots. Errol John has been a beef cattle rancher and pecan grower all of his life. He's served as President of both the Texas and U.S. Pecan Growers Associations and as a member of the board of the Cuero Livestock Show. His son, Lawrence's grandson, Johnny, graduated from Texas A&M University with both a B.S. and M.A. in Agricultural Economics and was an Agriculture Legislative Assistant to U.S. Congressman Greg Laughlin and U.S. Senator Phil Gramm in Washington, D.C., before attending law school. Additionally, he is a graduate of Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership (TALL) and currently serves as a member of the Cuero Livestock Show board of directors.

In 1982, Mr. Lawrence E. Dietze passed away. To honor his memory, his family established the Lawrence E. Dietze Agricultural Scholarship that same year to support the educational endeavors of a Cuero High School graduating senior intending to pursue a career in agriculture.



Lawrence E. Dietze
1981