

2022 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Lyman Adams



The Kansas Cooperative Council is pleased to announce the 2022 Kansas Cooperative Hall of Fame inductee, Lyman Adams. Mr. Adams will be honored on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, as a part of the Kansas Cooperative Council's joint annual meeting along with ProValue Cooperative, Inc.

Immediately following a reception and dinner, we will recognize Lyman Adams for his decades of service to the agriculture cooperative industry in Kansas. Lyman Adams, resident of Hillsboro, KS, was a champion of education, cooperation, and community at every turn in his professional and personal life. He was respected for his honesty and candor throughout his career.

Mr. Adams started his cooperative career in the early 1970's working for C.R. Rock Company, an auditing firm focusing on cooperative organizations, based in Hutchinson, KS. Lyman's acumen for numbers and leadership abilities were recognized early on by his colleagues. He spent the next 7 years at the Great Bend Co-op, serving as office manager, CFO and later assistant manager until 1982. It was during this time that he was accepted into the Farmland Industries General Management Program. This would afford him the opportunity to hone his skills and further his leadership training for potential management opportunities. Following his completion of the program, he was selected as General Manager of the Farmers' Grain, Fuel & Livestock Company in Pawnee Rock. At the age of 34, he became General Manager for Cooperative Grain and Supply in Hillsboro where he would later retire from.

When most co-ops seemed to be working against each other, he was able to forge alliances between competitors and create viable, larger organizations that created long-term value for its membership. Lyman's legacy will be known as Countryside Feed, LLC, a manufacturer and supplier of high-quality feeds for all kinds of livestock, pets, and hobby animals in Kansas and the surrounding states.

His management style was one that many appreciated over the years. He consistently strived for what was best for the cooperative and its members, continuously giving back to the community. He is congratulated on his dedication to cooperatives through his integrity as a mentor, educator, advisor, and friend to many.

The Kansas Cooperative Hall of Fame was established in 1999 to honor individuals in Kansas who have been instrumental in developing and spreading the cooperative philosophy. To date, 53 cooperators from all types of cooperatives have been inducted to this elite group. The Hall of Fame is important for recognizing the contributions of co-op pioneers and honoring those who have gone "above and beyond the call" in advancing the cooperative movement.

Mr. Adams' biographical information will be placed alongside other honorees, in the Kansas Cooperative Hall of Fame showcase display at the Kansas State Fairgrounds. This permanent display plays a significant role in educating others about the uniqueness of the cooperative business model while highlighting the achievements of our state's great co-op leaders.