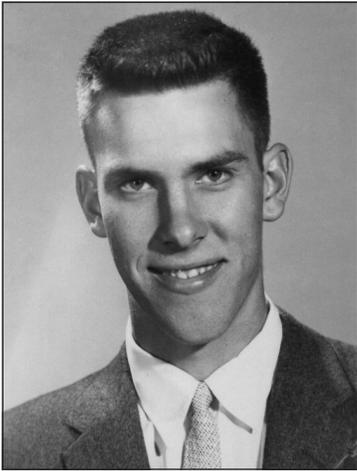




Stillwater Pioneer Athlete Memorial



DR. ROBERT JAMES "BOB" HILLIER

January 20, 1941 - April 13, 2005

Stillwater High School Class of 1959

11th Annual Memorial Induction Ceremony

October 7, 2006

Bob passed away April 13, 2005. He was born January 20, 1941 to Dr. J. C. and Luella Hillier and had a sister, Judith, Class of 1956. Let us put Bob's life into perspective. A piece in OSU's official magazine, STATE, winter issue 2005 focuses on Bob's future starting at age two. It starts with this lead in - Pioneering Family Shares Passion For Cattle Industry. Imagine Stillwater in 1943—open pastures, grazing cattle, miles of acreage and a father, J. C., taking his 2 year old son for a horseback ride while preaching the first lessons of animal care and sharing his passion for animal science. Thus began a beautiful friendship between father and son

and between a family and the livestock industry that would endure for decades and culminate with a lasting legacy.

Father and son team, J. C. and Bob, weren't just ordinary cattle ranchers - they were pioneers in the industry. They were known to friends as having a hand in everything, from developing new products and raising cattle to teaching others about livestock operations. J. C. was an animal scientist at OSU for nearly 40 years. His achievements and influence was memorable and he remained committed to improving the industry he loved. This inspired his son to focus on the same industry.

Bob was a sweet kid with a big heart and a sense of humor. His primary interest at SHS was FFA and agriculture. He participated on the basketball team in 1957, 58, and 59. Bob participated at a time of great talent at SHS, Moe Iba, Eddie Bunch, Cecil Epperly, Jim Barnes, and Don Linsenmeyer to name a few. Bob practiced a lot and never complained about less playing time. It may have been Bob who made these guys into nationally recognized collegiate basketball players. In 1958, SHS finished as state runner-ups. In 1959, SHS won state. Even though Bob played very little, he displayed much Pioneer Spirit and patience in helping make SHS a basketball power. He was on the SHS teams that were ranked in the top five in the state for three consecutive years.

After graduating from SHS, Bob went to OSU where he received a BS in Animal Science in 1963. That same year he married Lynda Sue Park of Tulsa. Over the next few years they had three children, Susan Lynn, James Bradford - referred to as Brad, now deceased, and Robert Brian. While at OSU he was a member and officer of Phi Delta Theta and Block and Bridle. He was also on the Meat Judging Team for two years, winning honors. Bob went on to obtain both a Masters and Doctoral degree in ruminates and mono-gastric nutrition and biochemistry from Purdue University.

Bob developed many products to advance technology in the cattle industry. He served on numerous state and national boards. One worth mentioning was his chairing of the Certified Angus Beef Board. His leadership helped make CAB a recognized brand of beef. While working for Ralston Purina he wrote the first Purina Beef Cattle Facts Book and developed a formula called Preconditioning Receiving Chow. Both are still widely used within the cattle industry today. Other positions in his career were VP, Deaf Smith Feedyard; General Manager, Hitch Enterprises and President, Bartlett & Company. There is no doubt that Bob could be considered as one of the most successful Pioneer graduates ever. He achieved much in his shortened lifetime and we recognize him for his successes.

Throughout his career Bob remained involved at OSU, attending games, delivering lectures and sponsoring summer interns at Hitch Enterprises and Hillier Angus. Bob and his mother, Luella, developed H&H Cattle Co. which later became Hillier Angus Ranch. Bob's wit, his cowboy and pioneer wisdom, his wealth of knowledge and story telling colloquialisms in his own vernacular will be forever missed. Throughout his life he enjoyed being a teacher and mentor to those he worked with. If you knew him, he was a wonderful friend.

In closing I want you to imagine this group of three angels in heaven - his dad, J. C.; Bob and Brad, his son, who have daily discussions about family, friends, and livestock nutrition. I am sure they would collectively say - go Pioneers and go Cowboys in all aspects of education and athletics.

Presenter

Gary Corser

Stillwater High School, Class of 1959