

## Shawano County's 326<sup>th</sup> Barn Quilt Honors Deceased Husband

Marlene Westgor has sponsored Shawano County's 326<sup>th</sup> barn quilt in honor of her husband, Bob, for his hard work on their farm and his service in the military. "I chose this quilt pattern, called Old Glory, to honor Bob and our family's U.S. patronage," Marlene said. The quilt is displayed on the Westgor farm at W4452 Birch Road, Bonduel.

Bob served in the U.S. Army in Viet Nam from 1966-1968. After returning to Wisconsin, Bob and his wife, Marlene, purchased the dairy farm from his parents, Russell (Buck) and Alice, in 1970. They raised two children, Jason and Jennifer. Russell and Alice had owned the farm since 1950.

In 1983, Bob suffered a severe injury, losing his entire left arm in a corn picker accident. However, he continued to operate the farm and its dairy herd until 1996. After selling the dairy herd, Bob and Marlene raised beef cattle and cash cropped the land until 2006. Both of them worked off the farm during that time.

In August 2006, Bob died unexpectedly from his exposure to agent orange while serving in Viet Nam. After Bob's death, Marlene wanted to keep the farm in agriculture, so most of the tillable acres were sold to Randy and Terry Bergsbaken. She kept 34 of the 160 acres and continued to raise beef cattle until 2012.

The Westgor barn quilt was painted by the Shawano County barn quilt committee. "I and everyone who has seen the quilt just love it," Marlene said. The quilt was put on display by LeRoy and Keith Raddant of Raddant Electric in Shawano, assisted by Scott Breitrack of K & S Landscaping of Marion.

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