

## **Barn Quilt 390**

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# **County's 390th Barn Quilt is Framed Cross**

Jody Wilmet, daughter of Jim and Sandy Raddant, has sponsored Shawano County's 390th barn quilt that now adorns her parents' barn at W7101 Ranch Road, Shawano. The pattern they picked out is called Framed Cross and is painted in John Deere colors. "This barn quilt is very special for my parents and they are very happy to have it displayed on their barn," Jody said. Jim and Sandy have enjoyed seeing the beautiful barn quilts around Shawano County and had talked about getting one. Now, after a little nudging from Jody, they are a part of the nation's largest trail of 8' x 8' barn quilts.

Jim was born and raised on a farm just a few miles away and always loved farming. He and Sandy purchased 40 acres, nine of which are wooded, in 1988 from Archie Schroeder. Prior to Schroeder, Fernerd Froeming had lived there with his sister for many years. The cropland is rented out, although Jim still enjoys helping with the fieldwork.

Jim and Sandy have a combined family of three sons and three daughters and now have nine grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. "All the kids love to come to the farm and play with grandpa's 'toys'...snowmobiles, UTVs, tractors and the golf cart," Jody said. Several of the grandchildren learned how to drive on the farm.

Since owning the farm, Jim and Sandy have put in many hours of hard work improving the farmstead, including building a new driveway, restoring the yard, remodeling the house, and demolishing a couple of old buildings which were replaced with a shop and a shed in which the 'toys' are stored.

Over the years, has Jim collected and restored many tractors, mostly John Deere. He also built a special 'people' wagon for hayrides in the fall, which he pulls with a restored 1936 John Deere A. The wagon can hold 24 people.

Jim and Sandy enjoy feeding and watching birds, gardening for canning and the quietness of living in the country.

The Raddant barn quilt was painted by the Shawano County barn quilt committee and was put on display by LeRoy and Keenan Raddant, both of whom work for Raddant Electric in Shawano.

### **Photo Caption (Photo by Jim Leuenberger)**

Sandy and Jim Raddant, along with their daughter, Jody, at right, are shown with Shawano County's 390th barn quilt on the Raddant farm at W7101 Ranch Road, Shawano.