

## ***Murl and Lucian Richardson, Fort Worth, Texas***

The front license plate on Lucian Richardson's white SUV reads "Angus." Every time she and her husband, Murl, go out for a steak dinner, Murl is certain to ask the waiter if he's serving Angus steak. If it's not Angus, he will lecture to the waiter why Angus beef is, in his mind, the best out there.

"Angus is simply a better breed of cattle," Lucian says. "I don't think Murl and I have any friends who don't know we are involved in Angus."

Lucian's father, Luther McClung, was a businessman in the oil industry who was also a rancher with a passion for Angus cattle.

"He didn't start out in Angus, but he learned very quickly that was the breed to have," Lucian says.

Murl got involved in the Angus breed when he and Lucian started dating more than 60 years ago. He learned the business through Lucian's father at the McClung Ranch, which operated at the time in southern Oklahoma and central Texas. The ranch just west of Fort Worth in Rising Star, Texas, is currently home to 400 Angus cows. The Richardsons, along with their family members, ranch manager, Howard Lawrence, and his wife, Caryl, take pride in continuing to improve their Angus operation.

"We study all the information we can get from the American Angus Association\* to try to improve the breed and put the taste that the consumer wants in the steak he's eating," Murl says.

Striving for improvement on the ranch has made Murl and Lucian realize that making strides is only possible through research and development and supporting young people who will one day take over the breed.



"Going back to the '50s when Angus was really getting started, if it hadn't have been for some good ranchers and smart cattlemen who studied the cattle and spent money on research and development, we wouldn't have the cattle we're able to work with today," Murl says. "I feel the Angus Foundation is doing similar work. It's funding research and development and training the young people to take over when we finally give up and let them have it."

Murl knows first-hand the importance of research and development, as he has been in the manufacturing and oil drilling business his entire life. He believes that research opportunities in Angus are endless.

"There's a lot more out there we can learn that we don't know today," Murl says. "We need to keep funding the Angus Foundation so that work can continue."