Former Agricultural Economics Faculty

WILLIAM S. FARRIS (1916-2015)

Professor Farris has been described as a man with "uncommon zeal and dedication" to his profession as marketing extension specialist, teacher and researcher. Dr. Farris began his career as a field station researcher for the University of Arkansas in 1940, joined the Arkansas State College faculty in 1949 and became a member of the Purdue faculty in 1954. He has conducted a wide variety of major activities at the State, regional and national level, including programs on marketing alternatives, futures marketing, business management for agriculture business firms, farm cooperatives, world markets for Indiana products, grain banks and grain outlook. Bill is known throughout Indiana as "Mr. Grain Marketing." He is recognized by the grain trade nationally for his knowledge about grain elevator management and international trade in grains, particularly soybeans. His expertise has re-sulted in his being asked to



serve on eight different foreign market study teams, taking him to Europe, Japan and Australia, Africa, South America and China. He was awarded the rank of Professor Emeritus upon his retirement in 1982.

Bill's skill as a teacher is demonstrated by the eight undergraduate paper awards won by his students in Amer-ican Institute of Cooperatives competition over a four-year period, 1977-1980. He elected to retire so that he and Ramona could devote more time to a wide variety of interests.

B.S.A. Arkansas, 1939; M.S. Arkansas, 1946; Ph.D. Purdue, 1955; Visiting Staff, U.S.D.A., Washington, D.C., 1972-1973.