New Jersey News

Charlie Holmes, retired Professor Emeritus with Rutgers University, passed away on January 14, 2022

HOLLAND, PA Charles Meirs Holmes, retired Professor Emeritus with Rutgers University, passed away on 14 January, 2022 at the age of 92, in Holland, PA. Born and raised in Cream Ridge, NJ.

He was a 1st Lieutenant in the United State Army and, after his service, he became the County Agricultural Extension Agent for Cape May County prior to serving in the same capacity for Mercer County, NJ from which he retired in 1990.

Charlie was one of the old guard County Agricultural Agents hired after World War II. In the late 70's there were 46 County Ag Agents in NJ, 25 of these were from this era hired after the war. They made a tremendous positive impact on New Jersey agricultural. Charlie worked with tree fruit and vegetable growers in central New Jersey out of the Mercer County Rutgers Cooperative Extension office. He was active with the NJSHS and guided many of us younger agents hired in the late 70's and early 80's. Another legend is gone.

Charlie was a member of numerous agricultural boards and committees and was especially proud of his association with the NJ Vegetable Growers and The NJ State Board of Agriculture. He was predeceased by his wife, Ida Mae (Hall), parents George B. and Anna M. Holmes and siblings Ruth Honadle, Helen Brick and Joseph Holmes. He is survived by his sons and daughters in law, William & Sharon Holmes of Milford, DE, Jonathan & Patty Holmes of Ewing, NJ and grandson, Colin Holmes of Harrisburg, PA. We will especially miss his predictable talent of greeting everyone with a really bad joke. Per the wishes of the family, burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) 72 Escher Street Trenton, NJ 08609. Blackwell Memorial Home 21 N. Main Street Pennington, NJ 08534 (609) 737-2900

Melick's Town Farm Cold Storage Project Complete

Win Cowgill
Professor Emeritus, Rutgers University, Win Enterprises International, LLC.

Melick' Town Farm new cold storage project was completed last summer in time for peach and apple harvest at their Oldwick, NJ home farm. Two new large cold storage rooms were completed and operational with 3,000 square feet of refrigeration. https://www.melickstownfarm.com/

All photo credits to Win Cowgill

Melicks used an extensive amount Smartfresh (1MCP) for the first time this season. https://www.agrofresh.com bin of Smartfreshed Macoun apples on January 12, 2022. They were amazingly crisp and firm for Macoun in storage at January. We used to guide to get your Macouns sold by December 1. Hence "no more Macouns without 1MCP!"

Most of 2021 crop has been sold or processed.

The other half of the facility was designed to hold various aspects of the cider and hard cider operation.

Assorted Melick Hard Cider products in cans and bottles.

Bulk apple cider waiting for processing.

A favorite with Melick customers, "George's Tart Cherry" hard cider named for the Patriarch of the family.

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