



Born January 10, 1926 in Rochester, Sangamon County, Illinois, Earl's childhood was chore oriented. He along with his brothers would milk cows and deliver milk to the Rochester community before attending grade school. Earl attended and graduated from Rochester High School in May 1944. During this time he raised and showed cattle at the local chapter of 4H and did some livestock judging. He married Marjorie Lorraine Lochbaum on November 3rd, 1944 in Treasure Island, California and served the United State Navy during WWII from April 1944-March 1946. Earl and wife Marjorie then moved to Virden, Macoupin County, Illinois to begin his own farming operation. Earl returned to Rochester in 1959 to work on his father's farm. Earl created and sponsored the Sangamon County Senior Hall of Fame. He is a member of the Sangamon County Farm Bureau, Bradfordton Co-Operative Elevator, and Rochester Christian Church. Earl and Marjorie are parents

of seven children; twenty grandchildren; sixteen great-grandchildren; seven great-great grandchildren.

2009 Recipient
Earl Taft
Springfield, IL