

Albert was born March 10, 1917, in Buckhart, Illinois. He attended Buckhart High School for two years and then quit to help his dad on the farm. His family farmed there until he was 16 when they moved to the Williamsville area in 1937. He married Alberta Boggs in 1941.

Albert always enjoyed helping his dad farm when he was quite young. During harvest, he and his brother took great pride in trying to shuck more ears of corn than the other. Albert recalls that he would shuck 100 bushels a day.

After he retired, Albert drove the combine and tractors to help his sons, Dave and Bob, until he reluctantly retired in 2008. He loved farming and was actively involved for close to 80 years.

Albert was fortunate to farm with his dad, who instilled a strong work ethic in him. He was able to use his equipment--horses, two white mules, and later, one

small tractor. They were fortunate when they were able to lease their 300+ acre farm located in Williamsville. At the time, it was one of the largest farms in the area. They planted 50/50 corn and beans. Their farm was very self-sufficient having a large garden, chickens, and beef cows.

Besides the initial large size of their farm, in 1966, Albert's farm was the first to sell for \$1,000 an acre in central Illinois. Weed-free and well-manicured fields were a trademark of his farm.

There were many changes in agriculture witnessed by farmers like Albert. Their farm had no electricity until the REA brought it in a couple years after they moved to Williamsville. Albert believed the easiest change to adjust to in farming was moving from farming with horses and mules to having tractors and combines which allowed them to farm the acreage necessary to make a decent living.

2011 Recipient Albert F. Sagle Williamsville, Illinois