



Clarence Krone was born August 13, 1920 in Sangamon County. He attended Cross Plain and Hazlett grade school west of Springfield, was a member of FFA and graduated from Springfield High School with the class of 1938. Clarence married Eunie Pierce in 1956 and they have two children, Kayla Primm of Athens and Randy Krone of Riverton. They also have five grandchildren. Clarence has been a member of the Grace Lutheran Church, Springfield since the age of 13 and served on the church council. He is a long time member of the Sangamon County Farm Bureau and a member of Buffalo Hart Community Club for over 30 years, as well as serving on the board off and on during that time. Clarence, along with his father and brothers farmed 700 acres together until the late 70's, he then continued on his own on a farm in Barclay. In the early years of farming he used horses to plant and cultivate also for haying and harvesting. They shucked corn by hand for several years until changing over to a corn picker and picker sheller,

before they finally got a combine. Clarence has fond memories of using horses to mow and rake hay that was baled with a stationary baler. They had one of the first self-tying balers, he also cut oats and wheat with a grain binder and helped operate his father's threshing machine.

In 1996, Clarence turned the farming operation over to his son, he has always raised hogs and still helps his son with his hog operation. Most of the time Clarence can be found helping his son who also raises Christmas trees, with planting, pruning, spraying and mowing. Clarence has milked cows, raised hogs and feeder cattle, fed chickens as well as raising corn, soybeans, wheat and hay. Clarence says, "I never did spend much time loafing. I always had something to do with the farm and I enjoyed it." Although Clarence never had to work off the farm, he believes for most young farmers a second job is a necessity, he says farming is physically easier now but tougher mentally and for young farmers he recommends starting small. So although Clarence may be officially retired, he still works six days a week on the farm.

**2005 Recipient
Clarence Krone
Riverton, Illinois**