



Frederick Allen Reichert was born January 23, 1932, to Lawrence and Helen Reichert. Fred grew up in Pawnee in his younger years, and then lived east of Virden, where he graduated from Virden High School in 1950. After attending the University of Illinois for two years, Fred joined the U.S. Army for two years, serving in the Philippines.

After returning home, Fred started farming on his own, trading labor with his dad. On April 7, 1956, he married Eileen Fahs, where they set roots down three miles southwest of Auburn, and have resided there since. Corn, beans, hogs, and cattle were the mainstays of the operation, which has now transitioned into corn and beans. A daughter Debbie, and a son Mark, were born in 1957 and 1960 respectively.

Many changes have been witnessed throughout Fred's farming career, from horse drawn equipment to GPS and genetically modified seed. With all of these changes, Fred is still fully active in the day to day activities on the farm.

There have been many organizations to which Fred has contributed, including Farm Bureau and the IFB GRITS team; Illinois Corn Growers Board and National Corn Growers Board; Extension Council; Virden School Board; Virden Masonic Lodge; Virden American Legion; Virden Cemetery Board; Virden Church of the Brethren Church Board; Pleasant Hill Nursing Home Board; Virden Township Mutual Insurance Board; and Virden Schools Foundation Board, just to name a few.

If you stop by, you just might catch Fred tinkering on his old JD 720 tractor, and reminiscing on how things used to be.

2013 Recipient
Fredrick Allen Reichert
Auburn, IL