



Joseph S. Pickrell was born August 4, 1947 to John and Carolyn Pickrell of Buffalo Illinois. He was raised on the family farm just south of Lanesville. In 1966 he married Marilyn Bice. They have three children Michele (Frank) D'Antonio, Joseph J. (Laura) Pickrell and Jason (Kelly) Pickrell.

Joe graduated from Illinois State University in 1969 with a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture Education. He went on to teach Vocational Agriculture in Herrick and Cuba, Illinois. In the spring of 1973 he returned to the family farm. During his tenure the farm grew from 640 acres to over 3900 acres. He raised corn, soybeans, cattle and sheep.

Joe was very active in agriculture organizations locally as well as on the state and national level. He was the Illinois State Young Farmer Discussion Meet Champion in 1975. He has served on the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Board, as well as

numerous committees. He was very active in the GROWMARK system serving over forty years on the Boards of Sangamon County FS, LincolnLand FS, and Priarieland FS. He resided as President of LLFS and PLFS for twenty years.

Joe retired from farming in 2021, but is still very active in the farm as Manager of the family land holding company, Pickrell Family LLC.

**2023 Recipient**  
**Joseph S. Pickrell**  
**Buffalo, Illinois**