



Fred Lestina, Jr. lives in Morris, Illinois. Fred's collection includes 9 – Two Cylinder tractors, a 3020 and a 4020, both diesels. He also has 2 JD 4430's that he uses today as an active farmer. Farming is in Fred's background and his Mother currently lives on the 200 acres that he farms today. He raises corn, beans and alfalfa hay. He also has a herd of 30 Polled Hereford cattle and sells the calves each year when they reach 12 months of age. He has been around John Deere tractors and equipment all of his life. Almost every piece of equipment he uses is John Deere.

When Fred was asked which tractor he liked the best, he quickly responded that the 1950 G was his favorite. This was because he got to use a G from the same era when he was a kid. He gladly told the story about working in the field with a G when he was a kid and he was working with a four-row cultivator. The next thing he notices is that the tractor is on fire. He could do nothing but get help and call the local fire department. The tractor was ruined and definitely was out of commission. I think it was Fred's Dad or Uncle that later in the day sent him back to the field with a 1940 A and a two-row cultivator. He said he was deflated the rest of the day because he had to step down from that big G and the 4-row cultivator. I would imagine that progress in the field was much slower on that old 1940 A.

Fred likes to go on tractor rides such as the Heritage Ride and the Covered Bridge Ride in Rockville, Indiana. He also attends the banquet on an annual basis. He is a retired Music Director. He taught band at Minooka Junior High for 32 years. All of that music is in his background but he still loves the sound of the two cylinder tractor.

Fred's favorite food is a good ribeye steak.

The next time you see Fred at an event please stop by and say hello and share some stories about his present farming experience compared to his farming experience as a kid.