

## *The Sunrise Award*

The Sunrise Award was established in 1988 to honor the memory of Patty Davis, a charter member of the Oklahoma Club Calf Association and Junior Board Secretary in 1987. Known as fun-loving, hard-working, determined and kind, Patty was the 16 year old daughter of Ted and Sandy Davis. She was a champion showman throughout the country and an enthusiastic supporter of livestock activities in Oklahoma. After her death from injuries received in an automobile accident in December 1987, Patty's family and friends established the Sunrise Award to recognize family effort, teamwork, and accomplishment in the show ring. The Sunrise Award is given each year to a family that exemplifies these values.

Her father, Ted, made the following comments about Patty and the values the Davis family brought to the show road.

"I know Patty will be remembered because of her determination and drive to be the best. She loved the program, her cattle, and the show ring. She knew if she worked hard she could compete and emerge as a champion."

"I often times find myself defending a comment made by other Ag parents who don't participate in the show ring, when they say, "there's a lot more to Ag than just showing." Well one must learn his trade well in order to perform well and reap the personal profit, whether it's self satisfaction or financial. A doctor is interested in medicine, a lawyer is interested in the law, and a pilot is interested in airplanes and it's obvious to me that a showman is interested in cattle."

"We have a hard time understanding why some things are taken away without explanation. As I look now at what Patty accomplished in her few short years, our friends and our memories are certainly things nobody can take away. To all the kids who have shown us your kindness and interest, I know we will find a way to see you and continue to support this program. "

Ted and Sandy have kept their promise to support OCCA, faithfully attending our awards banquet to honor a Sunrise Award family each year since 1989. Sadly, Ted passed away in 2003; however Sandy continues to support OCCA and the Sunrise Award.

## *Past Honorees*

1989 The Elliot Family, Davenport  
1990 The Lierle Family, Lokeba  
1991 The Perkins Family, Pryor  
1992 The Bertowitz Family, Cushing  
1993 The Blakley Family, Oologah  
1994 The Stephens Family, Chickasha  
1995 The Priess Family, Coyle  
1996 The Walker Family, Newcastle  
1997 The Penner Family, Sulphur  
1998 The Kinslow Family, Prague  
1999 The Faylor Family, Newcastle  
2000 The Ricks Family, Blanchard  
2001 The Allen Family, Newcastle  
2002 The Ward Family, Inola

2003 The Gebhart Family, Claremore  
2004 The Morse Family, Checotah  
2005 The Strate Family, Enid  
2007 The Johnston Family, Sapulpa  
2008 The Elizondo Family, Elgin