



SASKATCHEWAN
OIL & GAS
SHOW

2019 Southeast Saskatchewan Legends Award Recipients



Glen Grimes



Jerry Mainil



Dean Pylypuk



SASKATCHEWAN
OIL & GAS
SHOW

2019 Southeast Saskatchewan Legend

Glen Grimes

After years working in the electrical field, Glen Grimes developed the Kisbey gas plant, one of the first gas plants built in the region in many years.

Glen Grimes was born in 1946 to Jack and Jean Grimes in Lampman, Saskatchewan. He was the eldest of seven siblings, six boys and one girl.

Glen attended Lampman School. In 1963 he took a nine-month course in electrical construction at Saskatchewan Technical Institute in Moose Jaw. Afterwards he went to work for Bouchard Electric in Estevan.

He left Bouchard Electric for the big money in the oilpatch, working on a drilling rig for Commonwealth Drilling. He was roughnecking for \$1.50 an hour. Glen worked on drilling rigs for the next two years for different drilling companies, depending on what companies were working at the time.

In the spring of 1967 after an extended road ban, Glen made a career change and went to work for a power line contractor. It was building a transmission power line from Estevan to Tantalon for a new Potash mine that was being built there. Powerline work took him all over Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

In 1970 he went to work For Calgary Power in Drayton Valley, Alberta, where he was involved in construction and maintaining the power grid in the Drayton Valley-Lodgepole oilfield.

In 1971 he transferred to Edmonton and was in charge of maintenance on all transmission lines north of Red Deer. This position involved extensive time in helicopters patrolling power lines from Red Deer to North of Edmonton on the power grid. Over the next five years he logged over one thousand hours as a patrolman in helicopters patrolling these lines.

In 1972 Glen married Bev Stark from Innisfail, Alberta. They purchased our first home in Saint Albert where Bev pursued her career as a registered nurse.

In 1975 their son Michael was born in St. Albert. In 1976 moved back to Lampman where they started up Petro Care Electric. They operated that firm through the 70s and 80s, specializing in gas plant construction and maintenance. Dome Petroleum was their main customer.

Daughter Alenna was born in 1979.

In 1980 along with a partner Glen started up Gold West Wireline, a downhole electric line wireline business. In the late 1980s this was sold to Computalog.

During these years they also operated a small farm by today standards.

In 1990 after dissolving their electrical business Glen went to work for Sask Power as assistant district operator in Lampman. The majority of his time was spent maintaining the power system in the Lampman-Frobisher-Stoughton oilfield.

In 1998 Glen started working on an idea he had researched over several years. That was to process the natural Gas that was being flared off in southeast Saskatchewan.

In 1999 he hired Darcy Engineering out of Calgary to design a small gas plant that would process approximately 2.5 million cubic feet of sour high liquid flare gas in the Kisbey area.

After getting the initial budget and a list of used equipment that could be used for this facility he went to work finding investors for this project. That turned out to be the fastest easiest part of the whole project. Up until that time, southeast Saskatchewan had few gas plants besides the larger Steelman and Nottingham plants.

In the spring of 2000 he began construction on this facility at 5-13-08-06-W2. Startup began in August with being in full operation by early September of 2000. Glen continued to operate this plant until it was sold to a joint venture of Sask Energy and Atco Midstream in November of 2007.

After the Grimes family retired to Kenosee Lake where they enjoy golfing in the summer and spending their winters in Arizona. Their two children live in Calgary and both of their families work in the oilfield.



SASKATCHEWAN
OIL & GAS
SHOW

2019 Southeast Saskatchewan Legend

Jerry Mainil

Jerry Mainil was born in Lampman, Saskatchewan in 1935. He later moved to Weyburn, where he graduated from high school in 1954. It was that year that he began what was to become a lifelong career in the southeast Saskatchewan oilfield. Jerry worked his way from the ground up in the oil industry. He started as a roughneck on the rigs, went on to go into business as an oilfield water hauler and expanded his business to include oilfield welding. He did all this while still being active in farming.

His business, Jerry Mainil Limited, was founded in 1961. Over the years, the business has expanded into all aspects of oilfield construction.

He initially started working in the oil patch in 1955, hauling water with a 3-ton truck.

At this time Jerry learned how to weld. His first dirtmover, a backhoe, was purchased in 1958. A ditcher soon followed.

In 1961 Jerry married Orlanda Andres of Herbert. The couple went on to have six children.

Jerry Mainil Ltd. was incorporated in 1961. The firm was welding, pipelining and doing oilfield maintenance. Bulldozers were added in 1963, and over the years the company progressed to larger and larger equipment.

By the mid-60s trucks and pickers were also added.

If that wasn't enough, in 1963, a small junior oil producer was started. Originally called Oilfield Sales and Salvage, it drilled its first well in 1965. By the early 1970s, its name was changed to Caprice Resources. Over the years he bought out his partners and consolidated ownership of Caprice, which is still active today.

Jerry had originally wanted to farm instead of going into the oilfield. He had farmed at Lampman until 1959. In 1968, he saw an opportunity to get back into farming near Weyburn. He called it his hobby. The farm became known as Jeranda. Over the next 50 years he built up his hobby farm to 20,000 acres. In 2017, the farm was re-aligned into multiple Mainil-family farms, and continues on through his sons and grandsons.

Jerry Mainil Ltd. had a satellite operation in Swift Current in the from 1965 to 1975, but Jerry eventually decided to focus on the work close to home.

During the 1980s the Mainil children came of age and became involved in the various ventures, eventually taking over their operation in later years.

Initiative and hard work have always been the watch words of Jerry's business. He has proven this many times over the years. In the 1970s, when other companies were folding, Mainil was buying them up and diversifying. Lease building became more important. All of these moves paid off in the 1980s when the southeast Saskatchewan oilfields experienced another boom. His staff ballooned to over 80 people and his equipment inventory likewise grew rapidly. In 1992, he turned this company over to his sons, Dennis and Dale, and his son-in-law Calvin Tracey. They have continued to expand and run the business as in the past.

This gave Jerry more time to focus on Caprice Resources. Caprice is also a family operation that includes his son Michael (who is a petroleum engineer), and his daughter Pam.

Over the years there has also been a lot of hunting, fishing and golfing. He has won his share of oilmen's curling bonspiels, too. Jerry was a part-owner of the Weyburn Red Wings for several years and was on the executive when they had some tough times during the 60s and 70s. While humble about it, there has been plenty of charitable giving over the years, too.

Jerry has noted that a family is key to anyone's success, and that's what he has.

In 1993, he was the first recipient of the South East Oilman of the Year award. In 2003 he was inducted in the Saskatchewan Oil Patch Hall of Fame.



SASKATCHEWAN
OIL & GAS
SHOW

2019 Southeast Saskatchewan Legend

Dean Pylypuk

Before he became the Regional Manager for Area 4 (southeast Saskatchewan) with the Ministry of Energy and Resources, Dean Pylypuk worked his way up on the drilling rigs, working in western Canada, the Arctic Islands and overseas.

Dean grew up in Raymore, where his father was a general contractor and his mother owned and operated a hair dressing salon. Graduating in 1972, he went pipelining for Moosomin-based Shamrock Construction, doing main line rural gasification. That winter he went drilling in the Mackenzie delta, where he was introduced to the oilpatch. He worked with Regent Drilling, and the following summer he drove lowbed truck for United Pipeline.

The arctic islands were his next destination, working on a drilling rig with Gustavson Arctic Drilling on Cameron and Melville Islands for Panarctic Oils. There he worked in the Bent Horn Field. There were 10 to 12 rigs working there in the high arctic, drilling onshore and offshore.

In 1975 Dean married Laura Anderson of Serath, Saskatchewan. She was an elementary teacher until they moved overseas. The arctic work lasted from 1975 to 1979. From there Dean went to Northern Ireland as a toolpush on a land rig. They weren't drilling for oil, rather, it was a geothermal energy project.

It was the deepest well in Ireland at the time, looking for a hot reservoir at 8,000 feet.

Cornwall, England, was the next stop, another geothermal project for the Cameron School of Mines.

His last overseas work was in Holland, managing a rig drilling natural gas wells for Petroland, the Dutch subsidiary of Elf Oil out of France.

Dean joined the Petroleum Development Branch of the then Department of Energy and Mines in June 1984, a career that allowed him to be home with his family.

He has worked continuously as a provincial regulator out of the Estevan office and in 2004 he was appointed regional manager.

The job of regulator has been fundamentally the same, no matter who is in government. Dean's lengthy experience lends to a wider perspective. While some might consider 30 rigs working in the area to be a low number now, he remembers when the same number of rigs was considered boom times.

"Things go up, they go down," he learned. "You have to be drilling to stay in the game, and it cycles up and down."

During the following 35 years Dean saw oil go down to \$8 a barrel and up to \$147 a barrel. The spike in oil prices coincided with the Bakken boom in southeast Saskatchewan, with a billion dollars in land sales in that region in 2008. They were extremely busy, especially as this was before the implementation of online business processes.

It made for some long days. One week saw 105 drilling rigs working in Area 4, southeast Saskatchewan.

On the regulatory standpoint, Dean has found Saskatchewan has become much more environmentally conscious, an example being the elimination of flare pits in 2001.

One thing that has changed has been the incredible increase in drilling rig efficiency, especially with bit technology and solids control. Wells that took 14 days are now done in five. He saw this himself back when he was drilling in England, when his rig completed a 16-month drilling program in 9 months.

A graduate of the University of Regina Extension Program, Dean has two certificates in administration and has been a member of the Saskatchewan Applied Science Technologists and Technicians since 1987.

Dean and Laura have three children and three grandchildren