

DEDICATION



The Elroy Fair is happy to announce that our 2024 fairbook is dedicated to our longtime Friend of the Fair and champion advocate for all fairs, Representative Tony Kurtz.

Tony Kurtz was first elected to the Wisconsin Assembly in 2018. He has always appreciated the way a good fair can bring together a community. He believes the Elroy Fair exemplifies this by providing excellent opportunities for local youth and adults to show off their accomplishments in everything from livestock competitions to tractor pulls.

An organic grain farmer, Representative Kurtz believes that fairs are an essential way for Wisconsin residents in more urban parts of the state to see, further understand, and appreciate the efforts of their rural neighbors. Youth who are involved with competing at various fair events can learn the value of hard work and how to win or lose graciously. The Elroy Fair provides such character building moments you just can't get elsewhere.

These character building moments don't just happen, however. They are made possible by people like Representative Kurtz who actively supports the fair as a sponsor, as a buyer at the annual livestock auction, as a volunteer at the Sunday morning dairy breakfast, and when needed in the Wisconsin Legislature as a proponent who stands up for the entire Wisconsin fair industry. Tony listened to us when Wisconsin legislation was proposed that would have hurt smaller fairs in close proximity to each other like the Elroy and Juneau County Fairs. He stood up for the "little guys" going against the giants. We greatly appreciate his support as he helped make it possible for exhibitors to show at more than one fair without the fair or exhibitor being penalized. He also advocated for an increase in fair funding for all fairs.

Born Columbus, Ohio, December 23, 1966, our honoree went on to receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Professional Aeronautics at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, 1989, and his Masters in International Relations, Troy State University (Troy, Alabama), 1997.

Tony Kurtz is a former U.S. Army attack helicopter pilot (1985–2005). He retired from active duty as a Chief Warrant Officer Four (CW4). His service includes time in the Persian Gulf War and the Iraq War. He is a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Military Officers Association of America. He is also a member of the American Legion, Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Organic Farmers Association, and the Juneau County Republican Party. We sincerely thank Representative Kurtz for his service to our country, to our great State of Wisconsin, and especially for his support of the Elroy Fair.