

Honour Roll Robert Marvin Hull Jr.



The Canadian Hereford Association would like to introduce our newest Honour Roll Inductee, Robert Marvin Hull Jr., - better known as Bobby Hull.

Bobby grew up in a family of 11 children, of which he was the 5th born, in rural Point Anne, Ontario. Bobby's dad, Robert Sr., was a labourer for the Canada Cement Company and was a pretty good hockey player himself.

At the age of 13, the Chicago Blackhawks gained the rights to Bobby and at the age of 14 he left home to play Junior B Hockey in Woodstock, Ontario, for the Woodstock Warriors. He then went on to play for the St. Catherine's Teepees - the Blackhawks Junior A farm team at the time.

On family drives through nearby Hastings County, Bobby would often see Red and White-faced cattle. He told his family that "Someday, I will have my own Hereford Cattle!"

Bobby eventually joined the Blackhawks Organization in 1957 at the age of 18 where he played 13 seasons. He was the first player in the NHL to surpass the 50 goal mark in a single season. He then played in the WHA with the Winnipeg Jets and finished off his Hockey Career with the Hartford Whalers in the NHL, with 610 goals and 1,170 points. He also amassed 303 goals and 638 points in the WHA. At the time of Bobby's retirement from the NHL, he was ranked the second highest goal

scorer and was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1983.

True to his youthful exuberance and declarations, Bobby acquired his first Hereford cattle in 1959. For 53 consecutive years, Bobby has owned, bred, sold and acquired Hereford genetics. To emphasize his passion for the business of breeding Hereford cattle Bobby states, "I'll have Hereford cattle until the day I die".

He bought his first Hereford cattle with Ralph Richards of Demorestville, Ontario, and his herd eventually grew to 125 cows. The early herd names were Goldenhawk Hereford Farm and Hull View Polled Herefords. In 1968, Bobby moved his herd to Whitewood, Saskatchewan, where he partnered with Walter Horn under the name of Hull and Horn Herefords. When Bobby signed for one million dollars with the Winnipeg Jets in 1972, he moved his herd to Elmcreek, Manitoba, to partner with Bob Miller, under the herd name BNB Polled Herefords. Then in the late seventies, BNB dispersed and dissolved its partnership cattle and Bobby moved his cattle to various Ontario Hereford Breeders. Eventually, he forged a management agreement with Lorne Hadden of Blue Dove Cattle Co. Bobby's Herd moved to Bear Island, New Brunswick in 2003, where Michael Goodine took charge of the herd, now named BNC Polled Herefords. BNC Polled Herefords is now comprised of 75 cows, 30 yearling heifers and numerous herd sires.

Some notable animals that have been bred, owned or shown by Bobby Hull over the years include PRL Justa Five which was bred by BNB Polled Herefords & Bob Gordon and was a National Champion Female, Elambar Calibre was owned partially by BNB Polled Herefords and was a National

Jr. Champion Bull. Bobby also purchased half-interest in STLBRK Gilead 67K (a.k.a. "Stick"), which is the fifth most influential sire of the Canadian Hereford herd.

Throughout the years, Bobby has been very active within the Canadian Hereford Association, lending his famous hockey name to support cattle sales, junior programs, zone events and CHA promotional initiatives by signing thousands of autographs, donating hockey memorabilia and making personal appearances. In 2002, Bobby was recognized by the Ontario Hereford Association's East-Central Zone for his many contributions to the advancement of the Hereford breed.

Through the decades, Bobby has attracted new investors and breeders to the Hereford cattle business from non-agricultural communities. Professional hockey players, business leaders and entrepreneurs are among the many who never would have invested in a single Hereford beast if it were not for Bobby Hull's persuasion. Some remain Hereford enthusiasts today.

Wherever Bobby Hull travels throughout the world, he is recognized as an NHL legend. However, it must be mentioned that when he is acknowledged he always mentions his passion for Hereford cattle and as such has been a loyal ambassador to our breed of red and white-faced cattle.

