

By Charlee Beasor



Clunette Elevator Company

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR 65 YEARS

"Our motto with everyone we work with is that it's truly a partnership with our customer base. Our success depends on their success. We live that every day. ... I've joked around with a couple of customers – if I can make a dollar, I want you to make \$2. If that happens, we're doing our job."

*Gabe Ayers
Owner/certified crop adviser
www.clunetteelevator.com*

On the farm:

- Located in Leesburg
- 25 full-time employees; approximately seven part-timers
- First grain elevator went into operation in 1951, on the site of the former Clunette Schoolhouse
- Started as a grain elevator and feed mill. It has expanded to a Pioneer seed dealer, custom fertilizer and chemical applicator, and provides crop scouting and consulting services.

In the family:

- Founded by the Anglin brothers: Wallace, Jack and Dallas
- Today, Gabe Ayers and Tom Anglin are co-owners; Tom Anglin is the second generation and Gabe Ayers is third generation, by marriage
- Jack Anglin, 93, comes in every day for coffee and an occasional errand
- Ayers is hoping for a fourth generation – he has children ages 7 and 4. "We want to keep growing," he says.

Starting young

Clunette Elevator Company works with the local 4H and FFA programs and hosts interns.

"Being involved with those organizations gives us the opportunity, along with the internship program, to get to mold (future employees) to our styles. There are so many smart, young minds out there and to just get their minds open at the opportunity in agriculture, it opens a door for them that maybe they didn't think of."

Next 65 years

Like any family business, Ayers is thankful for the community's support over the years.

"We are grateful to be part of the community, so blessed to be working with the customers we have today and we want to continue to go for another 65 years and beyond. This is our passion and it's what we love and we have the best team out there, though I might be biased. It's truly a blessing to be part of the industry."

Family owned and operated since 1951, Clunette Elevator Company has grown from a single grain elevator into a multi-faceted agricultural services provider. At top (from left), vice president and owner Gabe Ayers, John Anglin (previous president, who passed away suddenly a few years ago), company founder Jack Anglin and company president Tom Anglin.

