

Gerald Huffman



Gerald Huffman was born November 5, 1944 in Petersburg, WV. Huffman was born into the logging/sawmill business. His father was a logger and his mother worked as a cook in the logging camps. At the young age of six, Huffman started helping his father in the woods. His first job was to help skid logs with horses. Upon graduation from Petersburg High School, he began immediately working in the woods. When he turned 20, he bought his first logging truck from one of his brothers. In 1973, Huffman's father Lane retired from logging and sold his son his John Deere 450 dozer and 440 skidder. Huffman began to grow the business, hiring his brother Richard, and then adding another crew while contracting with Allegheny Wood Products.

In 1978, Huffman Logging Inc. was officially established as a business entity in West Virginia. Huffman was one of the first loggers in WV to purchase a tree harvester to assist with the safety of the timber cutter and production. At one point, Huffman Logging employed more than 50 employees which included loggers, truckers, mechanics and office staff. In 1996 Gerald formed a new companies, Potomac Trucking and Excavation, Inc. and G&T Repairs, Inc. to better manage the logging operation. In 2012, he added a forester to his staff to help procure timber and manage logging operations to ensure that West Virginia's Best Management Practices (BMPs) were being followed. Today, approximately 80% of the timber harvested by Huffman Logging is purchased by the company.

Huffman has always supported a safe-working environment for his employees. He holds monthly safety meetings and promotes safety in all timber harvesting. He has been a leader in the promotion and practice of BMPs on all his logging operations and has been recognized by the West Virginia Division of Forestry as a good steward of the forest.

Huffman and his wife Myra celebrated their golden anniversary in 2015. They have two sons, John and Todd, and two grandchildren. He is a member of the WV Forestry Association, the Mountain Loggers Cooperative Association, U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Grant County Chamber of Commerce, among other organizations. He was awarded the Logger of the Year in 1980 and named a Logger of Excellence, 2009-2014.

He is a lifelong member of the Bethel Church of the Brethren in Landes, WV. Huffman and wife Myra own more than 500 acres of timberland in the state and manage their lands to promote future timber growth as well as excellent forest management.