

2019 Estate Planning Hall of Fame



Dr. Neil E. Harl is now retired from Iowa State University faculty. He has been a Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor in Agriculture and Emeritus Professor of Economics at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa since 1976. He is a member of the Iowa Bar. Dr. Harl was Director of the Center for International Agricultural Finance from 1990 through 2004. He received a B.S. from Iowa State University in 1955, a J.D. from the University of Iowa in 1961 and a Ph.D. in economics from Iowa State University in 1965. His major fields of law interest include estate planning and taxation, business planning and agricultural law.

Dr. Harl has published widely including 29 books (with two more to be issued this year or early next year); more than 400 professional articles and bulletins; and more than 850 articles in farm and financial publications. He is author of the two-volume treatise, *Farm Income Tax Manual*, the single volume *Agricultural Law Manual* and the 17th Edition of *Farm Estate and Business Planning* published in 2013. He was well known nationally as a speaker in the United States and abroad. He headed a project that was directed to the countries that were the consequence of the breakup of the Soviet Union including guidance and assistance for those countries in policies to adopt market-based systems after 1991.

He has received more than 30 major awards including the USDA Superior Service Award in 1987; the President's Award from the Iowa State Bar Association in 1991; Charles A. Black Award from the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology in 1997, for effectiveness in communicating with the public; the Distinguished Service to Agriculture award from the Chicago Farmers Club in 1999, the Wallaces Farmer Iowa Master Farmer Award for Exceptional Service to Agriculture in 2000; the Speaker of the Year Award by the National Society of Accountants in 2000; the Presidential Service Award from Iowa State University in 2002; Award for Service to American and World Agriculture, National Association of County Agricultural Agents in 2006, Order of the Knoll Award, Iowa State University Foundation, 2013; dedication of Harl Commons on the Iowa State University Campus, 2013.

Dr. Harl has served on six federal advisory bodies – a Farm Tax Reform Task Force for the U.S. Department of the Treasury in 1967; the Commissioner's Advisory Group (Commissioner of Internal Revenue) in 1979-80; the USDA Farm Structure Task Force in 1980; the Office of Technology Assessment, Technical Advisory Committee, by Congressional Appointment, 1987- 1995 (chair in 1993-94); the USDA Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology, 2000 – 2002; and the Commission on Federal Payment Limitations in Agriculture, 2002 – 2003.

Dr. Harl was a popular professor with more than 9,000 students registered in his classes over a 40-year period. Harl grew up on an Iowa farm and he and his wife now own 1,000 acres of farmland in Iowa.