



Jungkeit Park History

Fred H. Jungkeit was a steward for one of Elk Grove's most beautiful rural spaces. On it, he crafted his livelihood and used his knowledge and earnings to improve the quality of life for Elk Grove's children. Fred H. Jungkeit was a self-made man who represents the roots and heritage from which the modern Elk Grove has evolved.

In 1952, Fred H. Jungkeit purchased 180 acres of land off of Franklin Blvd. and established an impeccably functioning dairy. Until July 2001, the Jungkeit dairy sold milk to Crystal Creamery of Sacramento. The dairy was such a model of efficiency and cleanliness, the Crystal Creamery would send dairymen from around the world to learn from its example.

Fred H. Jungkeit not only opened his doors to teach international dairymen, but also the children of Franklin Elementary School. Fred volunteered his time teaching the kids about farming, running a dairy, and raising livestock. The pristine setting of his dairy was the perfect location for the children to learn of the hard work involved in running a dairy. Fred H. Jungkeit understood the need for and value of a good work ethic. As a German immigrant who didn't finish high school, his innate ability to work hard and his attention to detail helped him to rise to the top of his profession.

Fred H. Jungkeit also worked within the community of Elk Grove to make it a better place. He helped establish Willow Rancho Baptist Church and was an active member of First Baptist Church of Elk Grove. At First Baptist, Fred sang in the choir for many years. He also supported children who could not afford to go to church summer camps and provided treats for the children attending vacation bible school.

Fred H. Jungkeit passed away in 1969, however, many members of the Jungkeit family still remain in the Elk Grove and Sacramento area. Sixteen of Fred Jungkeit's grandchildren and great grandchildren have attended Elk Grove schools. Fred's legacy of giving back to the community has been passed on to other family members who have become public servants and opened businesses within the community. Those who spent childhood days on the family farm recall fond memories on the land and their time spent with Fred.

The information within this document was created at the time of park dedication and may not be current.