

It's The People ...

Jim King

When you hear the name Jim King you probably think of the “King’s” site curves for Douglas-fir. These curves replaced the earlier yield curves based on “normal” stands and have been widely used ever since. His 1966 Weyerhaeuser publication has been influential as a foundation for the development of forest management in the Pacific Northwest. But for those of us that knew Jim, he was so much more. Jim started with Weyerhaeuser research in 1948 and for the next 38 years contributed to the development and understanding of silviculture, growth and yield, and inventory for managed forests. He had a long association with the very successful Douglas-fir Levels-of-Growing-Stock cooperative studies.

Jim was a native of Nebraska and earned a bachelor’s degree from Weber College and Utah State. His masters degree was from the University of Idaho but his masters work was interrupted by World War II where he served in the Army and Navy, and was awarded a Bronze Star. He completed his Ph.D. from the University of Washington.

Jim passed on August 22, 2021, at the age of 101. Even after retirement many of his friends and colleagues would visit him. With his excellent memory he became a great source of history and encouragement during such an important period in the development of silviculture and policy in the Douglas-fir region. It always made for a great visit.

Left to right: Jim King, Rod Meade, and George Staebler.



Left to right: Jim King, Rod Meade, and Marshall Murray after Jim had retired.

