



# BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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Before I begin, I would just like to say it has been an honor to be appointed the State Executive Director for the Maryland Farm Service Agency by President Obama. For those who do not know me, I have an extensive agricultural and management background. I grew up on a dairy farm in Caroline County, Maryland which has been in our family since 1918.

After college I operated a grain farm and sold seed to area farmers. In 1990 I left farming to establish my own accounting and management business, consulting for farmers and other small businesses. During my transition from farming I started a "Choose and Cut" Christmas Tree Operation which I still maintain to this day. For most of the last ten plus years I was the County Administrator for Caroline County whose duties were day to day operations, Director of Finance, Budget Officer, Director of Human Resources, Pension Administrator, and Liaison to the Legislature and the Maryland Association of Counties.

Most recently for a short stint, I was employed by Maryland Broadband Cooperative in Salisbury, Maryland. While there I helped write a grant for the construction and extension of a fiber network to all rural regions of Maryland. Throughout my career I have always enjoyed farming and more importantly, helping farmers. When this opportunity at FSA presented itself, it seemed like a perfect marriage of my love for farming and my managerial experiences.

My father, who served as Maryland's Secretary of Agriculture for 13 years under both Governor Hughes and Governor Schaefer, had a history of helping farmers and farm communities. It is a legacy I would like to continue. Outside of Government, Agriculture in Maryland remains the number one industry. I would like to keep it that way and am happy to be leading an organization that works towards that very goal every day.