



Dr. Larry L. Darrah passed away on November 28, 2021. Larry received a B.S. from Cornell University in 1965 and a Ph.D. in Plant Breeding (maize/corn) from Iowa State University in 1970. From 1970 to 1977 he worked as a Research Geneticist with USDA-USAID in Kenya. Larry started as a Research Geneticist in the Plant Genetics Research Unit in Columbia, MO in 1977, and conducted research on corn stalk and root strength, as well as numerous diseases and insect pests of corn. Larry held adjunct faculty status in the Department of Agronomy at the University of Missouri and taught Applied Quantitative and Statistical Genetics. Dr. Darrah was a stickler for organization, and his students valued his feedback on publications and presentations. From 1991 until 2005 Dr. Darrah served as Research Leader. Those of us that know him in that role remember him fondly as extremely fair and he was well-liked by all. There will be no memorial service or formal obituary. For those that wish to honor his memory, his wife, Bonnie suggested donating to The Marcus S. Zuber Assistantship Endowment at the University of Missouri to support assistantships and meeting travel for graduate students in corn breeding and genetics. Checks can be made out to the University of Missouri and mailed to either Dr. Sherry Flint-Garcia (Dr. Darrah's final Ph.D. student and current Research Geneticist in the unit) or Dr. Bruce Hibbard (current Research Leader) at 205 Curtis Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211 with a short note that it is intended as a gift to the University of Missouri Marcus S. Zuber Assistantship Endowment.



Larry Darrah operating the skid steer loader to measure vertical root pulling strength in corn. Others in the photo include Julie Barry (left), Sherry Flint-Garcia (middle) and Rob Knutson (right), circa 1999.



Larry Darrah at a graduate student farewell party, with Mike McMullen (left) and Ed Coe (center), circa 1999.



Larry Darrah with his wife Bonnie and former student Wenwei Xu.