



In loving memory of our friend Greg Schroeder

Greg started working at Fur Harvesters Auction in the fall of 2011. I had known Greg for decades prior and always admired and respected him. When the opportunity of Greg coming to work for FHA came up during a phone call we had together that brilliant fall day the decision to welcome him on side was done instantly with confidence and enthusiasm. At the time we had no facility in the USA and I asked Greg if he knew of any available warehouse space close to the NAFA warehouse. He said he would get on it and get back to me. We posted the press release that day that Greg Schroeder was part of the FHA family and would be heading up the USA operations. It was less than two weeks later that a package arrived from Greg containing a professionally prepared file of several warehouses in the desired area. I asked Greg which one he thought would best suit his needs, and that was the one we had him negotiate to lease for one year with an option to buy in the future. Greg got the deal done and set up the entire operation himself from offices, phones, faxes, computers to forklifts, grading tables, fur drums and all the fixtures needed to run an efficient fur collection and grading facility.

That first season he had the place packed with fur and the operation ran like a Swiss watch. At the end of that first year I spoke with Greg and told him we were going to buy that warehouse outright as we had a hell of a year. Greg Schroeder had certainly played a big part in making it happen. So in a little over a year we owned the warehouse in Wisconsin and hadn't ever seen it. It wasn't till 2 years later that I set foot in this warehouse and was welcomed at the door by a beaming smile and a handshake and hug from Greg. All this was made easy by knowing the caliber of the man in charge, as I had nothing but tremendous respect and confidence in Greg's ability and knowing he was a man of great integrity and honesty. He never once faltered or complained through all the years running the Wisconsin operation. While so many bring complaints and problems in our day to day lives Greg Schroeder only ever brought forward solutions and he was always a breath of fresh air for me and I will dearly miss him.

The fur business is a tough business and only those truly built for work last. Greg Schroeder made his entire life's work the fur business and led through example that set the bar so high it put us all to shame. He played a paramount role in building FHA and he will be deeply missed by all of us here.

Greg Schroeder was my friend and I was blessed to have known him as were the thousands of trappers that knew him.

Greg was part of the FHA family and our deepest condolences go to his wonderful wife Brenda, son Eric and daughter Michelle.

Respectfully,

Mark Downey, FHA Board of Directors, Management and Staff

<https://www.afterall.com/obituaries/d-18764431/cambridge-wisconsin/gregory-thomas-schroeder/november-2024>