



Happy Friday, Farm Friends!



Today we celebrate Veterans Day. A special day set aside to thank and remember all of those men and women who have served our country both at times of war and of peace. We are grateful for their service and are indebted to the ultimate sacrifice so many made for our country and our democracy.

As the children of two World War II vets, we have a special connection to this day. We both had fathers that were part of The Greatest Generation. Even though neither of them talked about their wartime experiences very much, we know that their dedication to our nation was steadfast and unflagging. They fought so that their children could have a safer -- and perhaps saner -- world.

We offer our thanks and deep appreciation to all of those who have served our country. And we can't forget the service of those who stayed home during deployments -- wives, husbands, children also served. If you are a Veteran or a part of a Veteran's family, THANK YOU for your service!



Ray's Dad, Bill Tuegel, was a career Army officer serving in both WWII and in Korea as well as several other posts during his career.



Cheryl's Dad, Holt Ferguson, served in the Pacific during WWII.

We've been busy this week doing final harvests of our cold sensitive crops as we get ready for the projected freeze next week. It's hard to image freezing weather after a 84 degrees on Monday! But that's North Carolina weather, huh? This meme says it all...



Our warm weather crops have been producing very well -- peppers, tomatoes, eggplant. The okra production switch turned off a couple of weeks ago, but it was doing its best to crank out some more pods. No okra, but we got these beautiful flowers instead.



Shearing Day!

Yesterday BB and Tony got their fall haircut -- a bit late but they will be fine. Tony, in particular has plenty of body weight to keep him warm! Their fleeces were pretty nice -- not nearly as gunky as what you get in a spring shearing. Can't say that they enjoy the experience, but they are pretty tolerant of the whole thing. It doesn't hurt that [John Brasfield](#) has a LOT of experience shearing, both with his own flock (100+) and many others. The cool thing about working with John is that he worked with Cheryl's dad, Holt, back in the 80s. As the Stokes County Extension Director, John supported Holt's beef cattle efforts, but he always tried to get him to add sheep to the mix. Daddy always said, "No Way!" I guess it had to skip a generation to get two sheep in the pasture!





Spreading Soil Health!

We were trying to stay ahead of the rain yesterday by getting leaves spread on the garlic field. Thankfully Ray was able to get them all out -- at least the first round. These leaves aren't as decomposed as some we have gotten before but they will still do the trick. Our big, beautiful pile of leaves will be so helpful to improve the tilth of the soil along with boosting soil life.



Our old manure spreader is perfect for this job. Even though it is only used a couple of times each year, it is an important piece of farm equipment. To see a video of the spreader in action, [check out our Instagram account!](#)



That's the news for this week. Sunday is [World Kindness Day](#). If you're like me, you believe that the world needs a LOT more kindness. There seems to be so much violence and anger everywhere. But let's look around to see acts of kindness -- there are more than we might think. And if you can't see any, make sure to look inside yourself and commit to being kind.



Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray

