



# 2019 Grand Marshals - Charles & Mary Nethery

the Morning” show every morning for more than 15 years, reporting local weather conditions that include temperature, rainfall, humidity, snowfall and wind speed.

The weatherologist has been keeping track of the local weather since 1969. It was later when his wife was working in Dresden at the shoe factory when he would ask her what the temperature was for the day. She didn't know, so he decided he would start tracking it.

“I wanted to know and nobody would tell me nothing about it,” Charles joked. He took it upon himself to start tracking it and reporting it to the local radio station. In more than 15 years, he has only missed about 15 reports. When he couldn't, his helpmeet would fill in for him and provide the local reports and call in on his behalf. After nearly 70 years of marriage, it



*Above: Charles Nethery spends each morning checking his rain gauges and wind vanes at his home on Nethery Road outside of Martin before calling in his local reports as WCMT's weatherologist.*

*At right: Mary Nethery spends her retirement days tending to native flowers spread all over the couple's property and harvesting the abundant vegetables from their garden. Mary has someone till the garden plot for her at the start of the planting season, then handles the maintenance with a garden hoe.*

seems easy to realize the key to their long-lived relationship is to be of help to one another.

The pair grew up side-by-side on Nethery Road outside of Martin. Mary said they have known each other all of their lives and while she was too young to know if it was love at first sight, she was 17 years old when she said “I Do” to Charles. They married in

1950 and built their current home in 1957. With the exception of a couple of years spent together in Chicago, the Netherys have spent the bulk of their lives on the road that was named after Charles' great-grandfather.

Mary had family who lived in Chicago and the couple went after the notion that more money was to be made in the 50s with growing industry in the Windy City. She said Charles didn't like Chicago as much as she did at the time.

“He would have come home the second day we were there if he could,” she laughingly remembered. He recalled the exact date they arrived back in Weakley County — April 16, 1959. Charles returned to farming the family land. He finally retired from the fields



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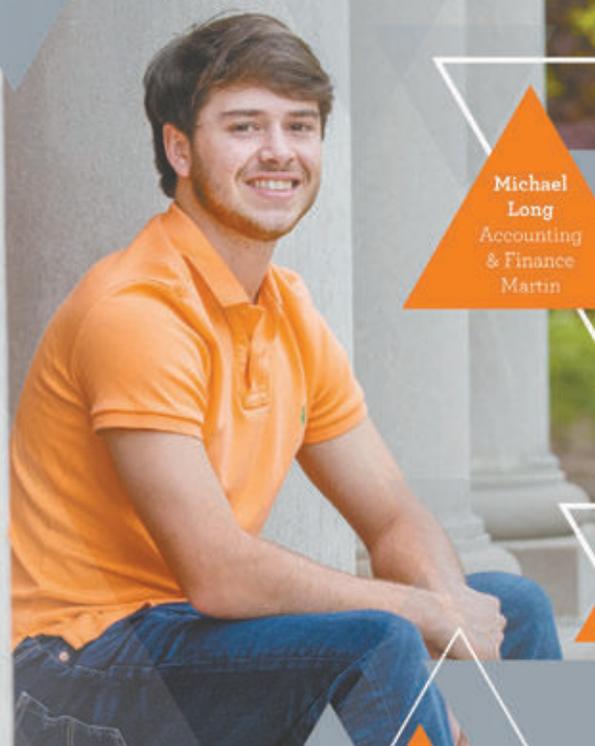
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