

## Dr. David Scott Rairdan

### Dr. Scott Rairdan Memorial Award

Dr. David Scott Rairdan, known to many as Scott or Scotty, was a warm, inspirational person who gave generously of his time and energy. He was compassionate, respectful, and considerate with all people and all animals. Scott loved to dream big and had a heart full of goals and ambitions. He had an intense entrepreneurial spirit and a great zest for life.

Scott was born in Stettler, Alberta and grew up on the family farm on Liberal Road. Scott graduated from William E. Hay High School in 1973. He attended the University of Alberta, then transferred to the University of Saskatchewan where he graduated with a degree in Veterinary Medicine in 1979. Together with his long-time associate and friend Roger Davis, they set up their veterinary practice [Davis-Rairdan Embryo Transplants](#). Scott was a pioneer in embryo transfer in the cattle industry and travelled throughout Western Canada and many other countries of the world learning from others and sharing his work. The industry benefited from Scott's enthusiasm and endless dedication.



Scott had a keen sense of responsibility to the world around him. He was a friend to many in the Charolais industry and the Canadian and International cattle business. Scott was a breeder of Charolais Cattle in partnership with his brother Jack, operating EXL Charolais Ranch outside Stettler. He served as Vice President and Director of the Canadian Charolais Association. Scott was a man of integrity and an avid volunteer in the livestock industry, which included being Chairman of the Calgary Stampede, Supreme Beef Championship Committee. One of Scott's many big visions was the Calgary Stampede Supreme Beef Championship, which ran from 1991 to 2005.

Scott swept into the lives of many with a broad smile, a gleam in his eyes, the latest agricultural technologies, and a relentless enviable energy. Scott was dedicated to the causes he believed in and was known for his vision and impassioned ideas. To Scott, nothing was impossible, and he conquered the most challenging projects. His gregarious personality and immeasurable enthusiasm were highly contagious to those around him - as was his crazy sense of humour and positive attitude.

Scott's curiosity about the world led to countless great adventures. His optimistic and inclusive nature was the source of many long-time and new friendships wherever he travelled in the world. Scott's interests included farming, water-skiing, cycling, running, downhill skiing, golfing, and time with family and friends. One of those great challenges he conquered was learning how to be a competent two-step dancer, eventually making it look easy with all the fancy footwork and turns.

One of Scott's great loves was travelling by bike. He cycled the Golden Triangle three different years and set off on his bike to attend a wedding in Vancouver, taking five days to complete the journey. He biked the Cabot Trail in Nova Scotia in two days and enjoyed a cycling trip in France touring wine country. Scott was determined, even biking the country roads near his home in the winter when it was minus twenty degrees. Scott was an energetic and top fundraiser for the Cerebral Palsy Associations of Alberta's Great Canadian Stationary Bike Race. He always put his best effort into everything he endeavoured to do.

Scott was remembered by many in the Stettler community as a hard-working 4-H participant and leader, showing his cattle and helping teach younger members many diverse skills, and as the humble young man that solemnly played his trumpet at the funerals of community war veterans.

Scott was a loving family man with a big heart, enjoying time on the family farm with his parents, siblings, and many nieces and nephews. At the time of his sudden passing June 16, 1995, Scott had recently married and was a dedicated, fun-loving stepfather to his two young stepsons. He was also excitedly waiting for the pending birth of a new addition to the family.

The Dr. Scott Rairdan Memorial Award was established as a tribute to Scott's integrity and high values, his well-rounded lifestyle, and as an inspiration for living life fully. It was a way to have Scott's life energy carry on in perpetuity, always moving others to be visionaries, to be pioneers, to reach for higher goals, and to create a better world.