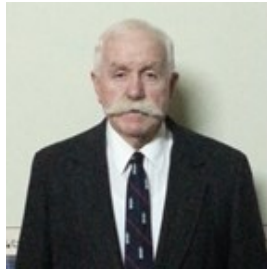


Coal Man of the Year



Your KMI Coal Man of the Year for 2013 is Burl Scott. In the history of mining, there has been no one that has supported coal mining more than Burl. He is a coal miner from start to finish.

Burl graduated from Garrett High School in 1961. He attended College at Alice Lloyd and Eastern Kentucky University where he majored in Industrial Technology. Burl entered the United States Military in 1967 and served in Korea as a radio operator. After serving our great nation, he returned to college at the University of Kentucky where he majored in Civil Engineering, Mining option.

While at UK, Burl worked for National Mines Corporation and began his career in mine rescue in 1971. He was a team member for 15 years, most of which was as the team captain. During his tenure as team captain, his team became recognized as one of the best in the nation and a team to beat at competition. You all know that there are certain teams at each contest that when you show up, you can expect to see their best, and expect them to fight for the top spot. Burl carried that respect from his competitors. Among his many contest victories were his KMI State Crown and most prestigious One-Hour Contest Championship at the National Mine Rescue Contest in 1973.

Burl went to work for Consol of KY in 1989, where he was responsible for contract operations, management of coal shipments, the haulage fleet, and compliance of State and Federal regulations. He quickly garnered safety respect, and in 1992 he secured the highest possible safety position in the state becoming the Commissioner of the Department of Mines and Minerals for the State of Kentucky. As Commissioner he managed safety enforcement, surface mines, underground mines, oil and gas wells, and explosives and blasting. While at KDMM he managed multi-million dollar budgets, dictated department policy, oversaw a fleet of vehicles, and supervised the department work force.

Coal Man of the Year (cont'd)

In 1997 Burl returned to Consol of KY and held the position of Construction Foreman and Preparation Plant Foreman. He was responsible for planning and development of new mines from the ground up, supervising construction crews, preparing the coal for marketing, and maintaining the plant. Burl retired from Consol in 2010.

Burl's most profound love in mining is undoubtedly his passion for Mine Rescue. We have already mentioned his work ethic and competitiveness but his love for fellow miners is the true measure of Burl Scott. Burl is one that when the 3:30 a.m. call came, never hesitated, rather he was one of the first who showed up to help when miners were missing. He participated in the Scotia disaster in 1976 where 26 miners lost their lives, the Potato Branch disaster in 1981 where 8 men died, and the Mink Branch disaster in 1982 where 7 lives were lost. As Commissioner of the Department of Mines and Minerals, he directed the rescue attempt and recovery at the South Akers Mine explosion in 1993 where 1 miner died in an explosion.

Burl has not abandoned us since he retired; he still (very actively) sits on the Board of Directors for the National Mine Rescue Smoke Eaters Post 2 and serves as the Master of Ceremonies at the annual meeting where he continues to bring expertise to the table for those who attend. He is also an active supporter of "COAL". He is a vocal leader in the community and state where he challenges our political leaders to stand with us and stands toe-to-toe with those who oppose coal. He truly is a Kentucky "COAL" and "MINE RESCUE" Man.