

Age: 77 (Bill), 80 (Paula) Hometown: Columbia, Mo. (Bill), Oklahoma City (Paula) Title, Business:

Owners, Owasso Tree & Berry Farm What does your business specialize in? We grow,

for your choosing and cutting, your perfect Christmas tree. We also sell five varieties

of pre-cut short needle fir trees that will not grow in Oklahoma. During the

summer, June and July, we grow blackberries and blueberries for our customers to pick

fresh and ripe from the bushes. How did you become interested in your specialty?

Thirty-five years ago we were looking for something that might supplement our retirement. While

visiting the family farm in Columbia, Mo., we were visiting with some of the

neighbors who were growing Christmas trees. Since I had a degree in forestry from

Missouri University, I thought this just might work. The rest is history. We have

now been growing for 33 years. How do you make your business unique? It

takes five to six years to grow a Christmas tree to a saleable height.

We planted for six years before we had our first harvest. Now we have

a six year rotation. The seedlings we planted last spring will be our crop

for Christmas in 2020. There are many places you can buy a Christmas tree

at, but only at the Owasso Christmas Tree Farm can you go into the

field and select from thousands of tagged trees and choose your perfect tree; which

you may cut or we will cut it for you. We take you to

and from the field on our hayride. We shake, bail, drill for stands, load

and tie the tree to your vehicle. We serve free hot apple cider, candy

canes for the kids and have a unique Christmas gift shop. We practice everyday

everything we have learned the past 33 years, such as display our pre-cut trees

in water to keep them fresh. We protect the trees from sun and wind

in our display barn. What is something special about you most people don't know?

I guess it appears on the outside I am a tough guy, but actually

I am a soft-hearted, caring person. It brings tears to my eyes to be

a part of thousands of familiesâ€™ Christmas traditions and see all the happy smiles
on the smiling little faces. Earlier in my career I was in paint sales.

You do not find many happy faces when it comes to painting. We have
no unhappy faces at Owasso Christmas Tree Farm.