



TERRY W KAHLE

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This month I wish to feature a business in Knox called “Terry W. Kahle” or some folks call it “Kahle From Knox” (www.twkahleequipment.com) is a family legacy business that has been a Knox staple for many years. The sole proprietor of this business is Terry W. Kahle, who some call “TK” for short. There are very few people in this area who do not know Terry Kahle, he’s a Knox icon and is still very active in the community serving with the Knox Volunteer Fire Company & Knox Horsethief Days committee. Terry W Kahle (equipment) is a very popular vendor in the area, presently serving as a dealer for the CASE, KUBOTA, TAKEUCHI & GRAVELY equipment companies and is also a quality service provider for the equipment lines. The history of the Kahle family over on East Railroad Street in Knox is extensive. Terry’s grandparents had a business called A.E Kahle Builders Supply near the railroad tracks on East Railroad Street, infact many of the homes on this street today feature foundations that were built with the blocks made at A.E Kahle Builders Supply. Most of these homes over on East Railroad are still owned by the Kahle family with Terry presently residing in the home right beside the original yellow tile building (business-shop) that his father Barney built. Barney (Wayne “Barney” Kahle) started up in business @ 420 East Railroad Street opening a FORD dealership there in 1936 & added Studebaker in 1939. This began a lifetime of business in the auto (related) industry for Barney Kahle. Barney was then called away to serve our country in the big war (WW2) and when Barney returned to the area, he married Francis Hahn in 1945. Francis had a teachers degree from “Clarion Normal College” (now Clarion State College)

and she began her teaching career over in Paint Township, but soon moved over to the school in Knox. Francis was a great lady, a fine 4th grade teacher (she taught me) and Barney & Francis were loved by all in the area. Barney got back into the automobile business around that time, bringing a PONTIAC dealership to the 420 East Railroad street business in 1946. Barney continued expanding the business over the years with a focus on the used car parts business, gathering used cars in yards located at three different addresses in and around the Knox Borough. The used car yard locations included one down where the Knox Riverside Store is presently located (there was a horse barn there also) and one across the road from the Riverside Store. Going out of Knox on SR 208 they had their large yard on the right there, going down the hill. These yards were full of automobiles and protected by some NOT SO friendly dogs. If you needed a part off a car, Barney always had one and knew just where it was located in one of those yards. Barney usually gave out two prices for these parts. One of the prices included Barney going out to the yard with the buyer to retrieve the part, and this option always provided the cheapest price on that part. But if the buyer was in a rush, Barney would tell you where to find the part, but the pricing would be much higher. He knew where everything was, and knew when something was missing. I remember hanging out there when I was a kid, and riding around to the yards with Barney. His memory was amazing, he KNEW where even the smallest item was and what inventory he had on hand. Terry had worked for Quaker State as a salesman but came back to work with his dad Barney and the business grew over the years. When Barney passed away in July of 1978, Terry was notified the yards had to be shut down & property reclaimed in accordance to the "Lady Bird Johnson Beautification Act".....Car collectors and enthusiasts will tell you to this day, it was a sad time for them all. They brought in car crushers, smashed them all down and hauled them away. Barney had over 2000 automobiles on 28 acres of land when this crushing process began, and it took them into the spring of 1979 till this was all completed. Lots of great old cars and priceless parts, gone forever. Terry went on, diversified with a focus on other product areas, building his business to what it is today. The dealer list over the years includes Artic Cat, Ski Doo & Kawasaki snowmobiles, Terra Jet ATV's. In 1994 a new building was erected at 423 East Railroad Street serving as the present day sales office and parts warehouse. In 1999 a new service shop was erected at the 420 East Railroad Street location, and in 2008 another new building was erected out in Beaver Township (RT338) serving as another sales & storage yard. Terry has 2 daughters, Tiki (Terri Kathleen) and Kimberly. Kim followed in the footsteps of her grandmother Francis, and is presently a teacher at the Keystone Elementary School. Tiki graduated from Clarion University in 1987 with a Bachelors Degree in Communications and works daily with her father supporting the business. Tiki (short for Terri & Kathleen) is the "go to" person there at the "Terry W. Kahle" business, putting in countless hours of hard work daily. The business is still a family operation there at Terry W. Kahles, just like it has been for years. "Terry W. Kahle" does a lot for the Knox community providing trucks & tractors and other equipment yearly for the annual Horsethief Week activities. Year in and year out they do many generous things in support for the town of Knox. We all say THANKS! We all are proud to have the Terry W. Kahle business in the town of Knox. They are well known as a quality vendor with their customer base covering a wide geographical area. People know Kahle from Knox is the "go to" place for a lot of great equipment & services. This mayor salutes the business "Terry W. Kahle" from Knox Pa!