



## **Michigan Agri-Business Association**

1501 North Shore Drive, Suite A  
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

[www.miagbiz.org](http://www.miagbiz.org)

Telephone (517) 336-0223  
Fax (517) 336-0227

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, January 16, 2013

### **Michigan Agri-Business Association presents first Leaders and Legends award for lifetime of leadership**

LANSING – The **Michigan Agri-Business Association** presented **Richard Krafft**, chairman of the board of Star of the West Milling in Frankenmuth, with the first Leaders and Legends Award for his lifetime of leadership in agriculture at the Association’s Winter Conference.

Krafft, a lifelong Frankenmuth resident, has been a member of the team at Star of the West for 65 years, including 44 years as president or manager. He currently serves as chairman of the board.

“Dick Krafft has been a leading force in fostering innovation, growth and development in Michigan’s agriculture industry,” said Jim Byrum, president of MABA. “For his years of service, leadership and dedication, we are proud to present him with the first Leaders and Legends Award.”

In addition to his 65 years at Star of the West, Krafft has been a positive force through his service in local government and community organizations, as well as his leadership across the agriculture industry.

He served for 28 years as a member of the Frankenmuth City Council, beginning in 1957. He served eight years as mayor pro-tem and six years as mayor. He served as president of the Frankenmuth Lions Club, the Frankenmuth Civic Events Council and the Frankenmuth Chamber of Commerce. He also served as president of the Michigan Bean Shippers Association, the Michigan Millers Association, Michigan Feed and Grain Dealers Association and the National Millers Association.

This year marks the launch of MABA’s Leaders and Legends Award, a program that will honor individuals who have led the growth of Michigan’s agricultural industry and acted as sparkplugs for innovation and creativity.

###