



The History of Lakota Farm Services

Lakota Farm Services has a history made up of insurance, real estate, and farm management during the early days of Lakota, North Dakota. Our records show that the present business and the name “Lakota Farm Services” have had continuity since May 1945.

Z.D. Cutter bought the Hughes Agency from Edwin Hughes in 1945, when the agency consisted of primarily real estate and farm management, with a little bit of insurance. Cutter changed the name to Lakota Farm Services in 1946, adding Van Packer Chimneys and income tax service to the services offered in the office. At this time, the business office was located in the old bank building, owned by L.A. Stefonowicz, editor of the Lakota American.

In June 1950, Lakota Farm Service Insurance was sold to James Orchard, and he maintained the same location with the same business types.

Seven years later, the business was sold to R.E. Busche (October 1957). Busche had been a Vocational Agriculture Instructor at Lakota High School from 1947 – 1957. Once he took over Lakota Farm Service Insurance, he purchased and remodeled the post office building and moved to the new location. He was then appointed by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation in 1958.

Several local insurance agencies were purchased in the late 1950s, including the Johnson Agency, Gaymon Insurance Agency of Lakota, Swanson Insurance Agency of Lawton, and the Conlon Insurance Agency of Crary.

Growing the Business

Over the years, the business grew, and many community members assisted in its growth. Raydene Winnegge was with the agency until 1966, along with Mary Ann Balek being a full-time secretary during the early 1960s. Irene Broe became the full-time secretary in May 1966 and worked until her retirement in 1988. R.E. Busche was also assisted by his wife, Joy, during this period serving as a part-time receptionist. Maxine Holm became a part of Lakota Farm Service in 1971.

Randy Schaley, of Petersburg, ND, joined the agency in May of 1978, specializing in the crop insurance field, as he is also a farmer in the Petersburg area.

As the business grew, Lakota Farm Service developed three distinct departments: Real Estate, Farm Management, and Tax Services. The tax service was a subsidiary of Lakota Farm Service, Inc. Partners in the business included George Moilanen, who was the owner of the Bis-Man

Ford Tractor, Inc. of Mandan; Kenneth Olson, who worked for the Trust Department of First National Bank in Grand Forks.

The tax service business, purchased by Allen Orwick in 1984 continues this service under the name of LFS Professional Services, Inc. In November 1985, Lakota Farm Service, Inc. purchased the Milo Elgin Agency of Michigan, ND.

On June 1, 1988, Ed Uriell purchased Lakota Farm Service, Inc. Uriell, a native of Lakota, and his wife, Denise, have four children. Denise joined the agency in 1998 as a licensed agent on all lines. They continued to represent all lines of insurance with several old-line companies under the name Lakota Farm Services, Inc.

On October 1, 2023, Mark and Samantha Huso with Beau and Taylor Schaley purchased Lakota Farm Services, Inc. from Denise Uriell, and her late husband Ed Uriell. They will continue representing all lines of insurance under the name Lakota Farm Services.

Mark and Samantha Huso raise their three kids in Lakota, ND, and are active members of the community. Mark owns and runs Huso Crop Consulting, serving local farms for many years. Beau Schaley has been around Lakota Farm Services his whole life, as his dad is Randy Schaley, and his godparents are Ed and Denise Uriell. Taylor is local to Lakota, and upon graduating from Lakota High School, obtained a bachelor's and master's degree in business administration.

Appreciation

We can't thank our customers enough for their support. It has been a longstanding business in Lakota, North Dakota, and we are looking forward to continuing this tradition.

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Taylor Schaley, Agent & Office Manager
Denise Uriell, CPLA
Randy Schaley, Agent | Randy Miller, Agent
Jessica Klefstad, Administrative Assistant
Mark Huso & Beau Schaley, Owners

Lakota Farm Services is an equal opportunity provider.