

Jeff Bloss — LTA Nominee 2021

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- 26 years in the truck business
- Owner of Truck Central LLC
- Owner of Truck Valley LLC

I got my start in the car business, selling new and used cars for 15 years. Then, in 1995, I was recruited by my longtime friend, Bryan Haupt, to join Arrow Truck Sales. I spent the next seven years at Arrow, working as a buyer in the wholesale division.

In late spring of the 2002, I said goodbye to Arrow and began the next chapter, opening Truck Central LLC with my wife, Dawn. We bought a small office space and began building our company. I focused on buying and selling, while Dawn managed the title and financial work. Business was steady and we had what we thought was a very successful year, buying and selling approximately 450 trucks.

Today, almost 20 years later, and with the addition of our retail operation and six additional sales staff, Truck Central LLC & Truck Valley LLC average sales of 4,000-5,000 trucks per year with an annual revenue of approximately \$100 million.

This business has grown steadily over the years and it wouldn't have been possible without the support of some very important people along the way. My wife, Dawn, who helped me start this business and also focused on raising our children. I am thankful for her trust as we took that first leap. My business partner, Andy Holloway, who joined me in 2004 as a salesman and now works with me in multiple business ventures, and runs the daily operations of both Truck Central & Truck Valley. I'm proud to call him my partner. Michelle Wray, who joined us as the Truck Central office manager in 2005 and whom I like to call the "best office manager in the business."

Finally, the UTA organization. I have been a member of the UTA since the late 90s. Some of my very best customers and friends were made through the UTA. Truck Central has been proud to be a part of this organization (including our role as a sponsor for the annual convention and the Jerome Nerman golf outing in Kansas City, MO).

I am a very proud husband, father, and grandfather. I enjoy spending time with Dawn and our three children and three grandchildren. Our daughter, Myndi, is a freelance writer, and her husband, Charlie, is an attorney. They live in the Chicago area with their two daughters, Emerson and Marlowe. Our son, Beau, was diagnosed with autism at a young age. We have

been deeply connected to the autism community ever since. Dawn serves on the Board of Directors at the Rainbow Center for Communicative Disorders in Blue Springs, MO, a school for children and adults with special needs. The Rainbow Center has been instrumental in our lives personally and serves so many deserving children and adults in our community. Our youngest son, Benny, and his wife, Hailey, just had our newest grandson. Luca is three months old and we are enjoying watching him grow. Benny has been racing around the country and around the world as a professional supercross/motocross racer for the past six years. We have been lucky enough to be able to travel with him as he chases his dream.

In our spare time (not that there's much of it these days), we enjoy spending weekends at our lake house in Branson, MO on Table Rock Lake. Our son, Beau, is the captain of the boat and chauffeurs us around the lake.

Thank you all for your nominations. It's truly an honor to be considered for this highly prestigious award.