

# Crosslin Supply Co., Inc.

## This Year Celebrating 70 Years in Business

Largest independent lumber retailer in the state of Tennessee

By Nancy Crosslin Davis

In October 1933, Frank and Mary Ester Crosslin opened a small store on the south end of Eagleville and named it Eagleville Produce Company. Through the years, their business grew and in 1940, moved the general store to the present location of Crosslin Supply Company.

Frank constructed a building to house his grocery, feed, seed and produce business. From this location, a restaurant was also operated for several years. They added three rolling stores called "peddling wagons" that traveled around the country roads selling grocery items such as coffee, sugar, fresh fruits and other items in exchange for cash, chicken, eggs and other locally produced items. Many grocery stores had drawings for cash or groceries at that time, and the night of the drawings were occasions for neighbors to linger and chat. The young folks, as well as the old, used Frank and Mary Ester's drawings for social occasions in those pre-TV days.

During World War II, many people had difficulty obtaining building products. Frank developed an interest in building houses and saw the need to add lumber and building materials to what Crosslin Supply Company offered for sale. This was the beginning of Crosslin Supply Company as a lumber and building supply company.

Crosslin Supply Company is one of the largest family owned hardware and building material centers in Tennessee. The operation was expanded to include a Smyrna Tennessee location in April of 1959. The company was incorporated in Eagleville in 1962 where it continues operation today. The company later expanded by adding a location in Franklin Tennessee in 1997 and Country Dutch Barnes in Triune Tennessee in 1998.

After the death of Frank E. Crosslin, Sr., in 1992, his son, Frank E. Crosslin, Jr., became president of the company. After his death in 2000, Kenneth W. Victory became the president of Crosslin Supply Company, Inc.

This year Crosslin Supply Company, Inc. celebrates seventy years of business in Middle Tennessee and continues to be family owned. The business has been fortunate to have many capable, loyal and knowledgeable employees who have many years of experience. Some have seen the business change to forklifts, large trucks, computers and mobile phones which quickly contact customers.



JoAnn Shelton has been with the company for 45 years, serving as office manager for the Eagleville location as well as working for the entire corporation. Kelly Redmon became the Eagleville store manager at the death of Frank E. Crosslin, Sr. Kelly has 18 years of service. The company now employs 115 people.

Crosslin Supply Company is grateful to the many loyal customers who have supported the business during the past seventy years.

Nancy and Frank Jr. standing in front of the store located on the corner of Main & Hwy 99, across from the post office.