For Jack Link, the livestock industry has always been more than a hobby — it’s been a way of life. Growing up on a commercial cow-calf and crop operation in Knoxville, Illinois, Jack was introduced to agriculture at an early age. While livestock had always been a part of his upbringing, he discovered his true passion when he bred his first show sow at just 10 years old.

"Since then, I've been raising show pigs with my family and wouldn't have it any other way," Jack said.



That passion led him to become heavily involved in both FFA and 4-H throughout his youth. Along the way, he earned national recognition as an All-American in the Livestock Skillathon in 2021. His commitment to learning and improving continued through college, where he competed on livestock judging teams at Joliet Junior College and later at South Dakota State University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Science.

Although Jack's show career began in the cattle ring, he eventually made the switch to pigs, a decision that helped shape the path he's on today. When asked about his favorite memories from showing, Jack quickly pointed to the experiences and relationships the industry has provided.

"My favorite memories from my show career would have to be the places it's taken me and the people I've met," he said. "From traveling all across the country to shows, to making some of the best friends in the barn back in Illinois, the people are what make this such a great community."

Of course, there were memorable moments in the ring as well. Among his proudest accomplishments was raising and exhibiting two barrows that advanced to the Coliseum at the Illinois State Fair. Today, Jack continues to stay involved in the industry through his role as a sales representative for Sullivan Supply. While many people see the job as simply selling products, Jack knows there's much more to it.

"My role as a sales representative is much more than just selling products," he explained. "It starts with teamwork, with a great team of sales reps working together to make sure everyone has the best chance for success when we pull out of the trailer bay doors. It also includes the relationships made with show families that allow us to help supply their dreams at these shows."



Those relationships are a big reason why Jack enjoys his work so much. Whether he's working alongside fellow sales reps or helping exhibitors and families at events across the country, the people continue to be his favorite part of the job. Having experienced the challenges and rewards of exhibiting firsthand, Jack takes pride in helping the next generation achieve their goals.

"I enjoy being able to help exhibitors reach their full potential," he said. "I know from my show experience it always helps to have people around you that want to make you better and provide you with everything you need to not only be successful, but most importantly enjoy the journey."

One of Jack's most memorable experiences since joining the Sullivan Supply team came at one of the industry's biggest events.

"My most memorable experience with Sullivan Supply so far has been getting to experience The Exposition from outside of the barn for once," he said.

Whether he's assisting families at a jackpot show, building relationships across the country, or helping exhibitors prepare for success, Jack's passion for the livestock industry remains the same as it was when he bred that first show sow years ago. Through his dedication, work ethic, and enthusiasm for helping others, he's become a valuable part of the Sullivan Supply team and

the livestock community as a whole. Visit him at the MHJNA Junior National in Chillicothe, MO this week for all your stock show needs!