

This year's Sonoma County Flower Show is dedicated to Sam and Rita McMillan. The McMillans have participated in the fair's flower show for more than 40 years, donating their time and talent to make it one of the best shows on the west coast. Through their involvement with the Men's Garden Club and the Elsie Allen Ag Boosters, the McMillans have helped with prize-winning garden exhibits that inspire and educate fairgoers about the horticultural wonders of Sonoma County. Sam. and Rita consider their work in the flower show part of their family tradition of being involved in the Sonoma County Fair. The couple, both 76 and natives of Sonoma County, come from agricultural families who were immersed in the fair through Farm Bureau and the Men's Garden Club as well as 4-H and FFA. In fact, Sam. McMillan and Rita Brians, the daughter of the late Ted and Marta Brians, met at the Sonoma County Fair in 1970 while helping build an agriculture feature exhibit for the Sonoma-Marin Young Farmers & Ranchers. Sam.'s parents, the late Sam. and Huda McMillan, were members of the Men's Garden Club, which annually does a garden exhibit as part of the fair's flower show. Sam. and Rita helped Sam.'s parents with the garden exhibit for many years and, later, joined the Men's Garden Club themselves, continuing to this day as stalwart members of the organization. It's because of the support of people like the McMillans that the flower show is one of the most popular and enduring attractions at the annual fair. The Sonoma County Fair is honored to dedicate the 2022 flower show to Sam. and Rita McMillan.