

## 2017 Family-Owned Business



Ray Crosby was taught the value of hard work, at an early age, by his grandparents, Flaval G. and Margaret Weeks, who founded Weeks Honey Farm in 1960. His parents, Donnie Crosby and Sharon Weeks Crosby, carried on the family legacy after the grandparents. The two generations of family instilled in Ray a love of bees and the honey they produce. Ray and his wife Sonja strive to instill those family values as well as create a welcoming, loving environment for their children, employees and customers.

As a young man, Ray decided to venture out into the world outside of bees and found a natural connection to the supermarket industry. Ray demonstrated the work ethics he was taught as a young man and soon became the Store Director, where he received numerous awards including awards for meeting projections for Sales & Profit/Loss each and every year.

After years of working in the corporate business world, he realized that he really wanted to be a part of the family business and began working in the company. In 2000, Ray left the supermarket industry and began working full-time; learning the entire business from the ground up. Today, Ray serves as president and owner of the company. What began as a 2-hive beekeeping hobby has now grown to over 6,000 hives. Weeks Honey Farm's honey products are now sold in over 2,000 retail stores across the nation.