

Charlie Gause  
Retired Vice President of Marketing  
John Deere Co.

Charlie Gause was born and raised on a farm in southwest Oklahoma. After receiving a degree in marketing from Oklahoma State University in 1962, he went to work for John Deere Co. of Kansas City. While in the Kansas City branch he was a territory manager in Kansas and Oklahoma before being promoted to retail store manager in Wichita, Kansas.

Gause was transferred to John Deere Waterloo Tractor works in 1970 as Assistant Sales Manager and was promoted to Manager of Factory Marketing in 1971. While at Waterloo he introduced many new tractor models most notably the Generation II Sound Idea tractors, which featured the Sound Gard Body.

In the fall of 1974 he was moved to Portland, Oregon as General Sales Manager of the branch in the northwest. He later was Vice President and General Manger of the Dallas branch and then moved to Kansas City as General Manager. He was appointed Vice President of Marketing for Deere a position he held until his retirement in 2002.

During his time with Deere he was deeply involved in community activities in the Kansas City area. He established the Dodson Development Organization, which became the Kansas City Business Development Corporation; he served on the Agricultural Committee for the Chamber of Commerce, the Executive Board of the National Agricultural Hall of Fame, the Foundation board for the Agriculture Future of America and the Foreign Trade Zone for Greater Kansas City. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the U.S. Custom Harvesters, an honor by the organization of custom combine owners.

Charlie has always been an avid sportsman. He is a life member of the Grand National Quail Club and a member of that clubs Hall of Fame. He is also a life member of the Nebraska One Box Pheasant Hunt and the One Shot Antelope Hunt in Lander Wyoming. He has served as Chairman of the Past Shooters Council of the Grand National Quail Club and is currently on the Executive Board of that organization. He is a member of Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever and the Shadow Glen Golf Club in Olathe, Kansas.

Charlie and his wife Verna make their home in Olathe, Kansas. He is still active in farming back in Oklahoma. He enjoys hunting, fishing and golf.