

Jim C. Hamer

Jim C. Hamer of Kenova – A 1955 graduate of Ceredo-Kenova High School, and a 1959 Forestry graduate of SUNY at Syracuse, Hamer has spent his profes-



sional career managing successful lumber operations and promoting scientific timber management. Following a stint working in the family business, bought later by Jim Walter Corp., Hamer started his own wood products company. Since its inception in 1976, the Jim C. Hamer Co. has grown to an annual production level of 75 million board feet of lumber, plus wood pellet fuel production facilities, kilns and 350,000 acres of forestland under management. The company employs 370 at six locations around the

state. Hamer has also supported several public education programs, including “Teachers for the Forest,” a nonprofit organization that has taken science-based messages about forestry to more than 3,000 teachers in West Virginia. He was selected as Timber Processing Magazine’s Man of the Year, won the National Hardwood Lumber Association’s Forest Stewardship Award for North America, and has won the WV Forestry Association’s Sawmill of the Year Award four times.