

# STANTON

## VINEYARDS

OAKVILLE · NAPA VALLEY

### **Doug Stanton, Owner & Vineyard Manager**

Doug Stanton, Vineyard Manager for Stanton Family Vineyards, understands that the most important component to making great wine begins with the grapes and the land on which they're grown.

For Doug, growing and selling grapes is in his blood. For more than 60 years (since 1947 when grandfather Jesse purchased his first vineyard property), the Stanton family has been growing and selling grapes in the Napa Valley. Doug was born in Los Angeles in 1959 and relocated with his parents to St. Helena in 1971, when his father and grandfather joined forces to farm their vineyard properties. He graduated from California State University, Chico with a degree in Business Administration. But it was in 1982, when Doug first worked the harvest with his dad, that he got excited about farming.

Upon graduation from Chico, Doug worked as an assistant tennis pro in Carmel Valley for a couple of years, before deciding to begin work in the wine industry. Starting in January 1985, he trained at Gallo Wine Company in their sales division learning the ins and outs of the challenging distribution and sales side of the business. He soon decided, though, that his heart was in the tending of the vines. He joined his family's business, taking over as Vineyard Manager for Stanton Family Vineyards, a position he still holds.

After years of producing and selling outstanding grapes to prominent Napa Valley wineries such as Newton, Duckhorn and Joseph Phelps, Doug decided to launch his own brand. In 1999 he produced the first Cabernet Sauvignon under the Stanton label. Each year since, Doug and his family have sought to hone their farming skills and artistry to produce the highest quality fruit possible. Doug developed a passion for Petite Sirah while growing outstanding fruit for Stags' Leap Winery and launched his first limited production vintage of that varietal in 2004.

Committed to viticulture and the preservation of the Napa wine industry, Doug served as President of the Board of Directors, Napa Valley Cooperative Winery in 1992 and 1993 and later served as President of the Napa Valley Grape Growers Association in 1997 to 2000.

Doug's family continues to inspire him. He and his wife Kristen have been married since 1990, and they had their daughter Natalie in 2000.

Like his father and grandfather, Doug believes in cultivating the land himself. With his 91 year old father still actively farming beside him, Doug doesn't foresee retirement from farming anytime soon.