



Winemaker John McKay

Since earning his degree in biological sciences at the University of Oregon in 1968, John has crafted a distinguished career in wine. He began under the tutelage of Brad Webb, then winemaker of Hanzell Vineyards. His more than thirty year career includes production management and winemaking stints at such respected wineries as Charles Krug, Vichon, Merlion, Monticello, and Napa Wine Company, where as head winemaker he worked with some of the most influential consulting winemakers in California, including Helen Turley, Heidi Peterson Barrett, Paul Hobbs, and Merry Edwards.

Over the years, John has pioneered such innovative winemaking techniques as *sur lie* aging of white wines and the use of extended maceration during fermentation of red wines.

As winemaker at Marilyn Wines since 2001, John has continually elevated the quality and style of Marilyn Merlot, Marilyn Cabernet, and Norma Jeane – a young Merlot. With the debut of the Velvet Collection wines, he has achieved another level of excellence.