

Longest-Serving Postmasters*

*Known to date as having served continuously at the same Post Office

During the Postal Service's more than two centuries of service, the Postmasters with the longest known, continuous service at the same Post Office are:

Postmaster/Post Office	Years	Period
Roswell Beardsley, North Lansing, NY	74	1828–1902
John N. Van Zandt, Blawenburg, NJ	69	1866–1935
Edgar S. Kumley, Redig, SD	65	1949–2015
Archie L. Wardeska, Irondale, OH	64	1933–1997
Mary W. Stewart, Oxford, MD	63	1877–1940
Albert G. Mahar, Dennyville, ME	63	1935–1998
Levi A. Deike, Hye, TX	62	1934–1996
Norma Jean Larry, Cable, OH	62	1948–2011
Lillian W. Bowles, Wonalancet, NH	60	1932–1992
Milo F. Winchester, South Amenia, NY	60	1849–1909
David G. Ballengee, Clayton, WV	59	1879–1939
Samuel G. Lowery, Burnt Corn, AL	59	1936–1995
Charles DePrefontaine, Blue Bell, PA	59	1867–1926



**Roswell Beardsley,
Postmaster for More
Than 74 Years**

Roswell Beardsley was appointed Postmaster of North Lansing, New York, in 1828, at the age of 18, and served until his death in 1902 at the age of 93. He ran the Post Office in his small country store and was well-loved by his patrons, some of whose families he served for five generations.



Edgar Kumley, 2012
Courtesy of Anne Fickbohm

Edgar Kumley, Postmaster from 1949 to 2015

Edgar Kumley was born around 1923, the year that his father, Earl, was appointed Postmaster of the Redig, South Dakota, Post Office.

In 1937, during the Great Depression, the elder Kumley went to work for the Resettlement Administration, and Edgar's mother, Ella, was appointed Postmaster.

Kumley remembers entire families during the Dust Bowl, walking westward across the prairie while carrying all of their possessions. "We would take them in and feed them, and the next morning they were on their way again across the gumbo," he recalled in a 2012 interview.

In December 1948, Edgar Kumley became acting Postmaster of Redig; he was appointed Postmaster on March 25, 1949. He served as Postmaster for nearly 66 years, until his retirement on January 10, 2015.