

“Youth Mentors” Hall of Fame Awards Program

In preparing the one-page narrative, please observe the following criterion:

Describe in detail nominee's accomplishments and achievements, which set him/her apart from others for recognition. Please note: Nominees accomplishment(s)/contribution(s) may be a one-time act or the result of a long history of involvement. Add a separate sheet if you need more room. NOMINEE MAY BE A VOLUNTEER OR A PAID PROFESSIONAL SERVING YOUTH.

Please consider the following when preparing your submission. Be complete as possible.

- What was the extent of nominee's accomplishment(s)/contribution(s)?
- Who was affected by these accomplishment(s)/contribution(s)?
- How much time did nominee devote to youth in his/her accomplishment(s)/contribution(s)?
- Was there a spill-over/ripple affect into the community as a result of nominee's accomplishment(s)/contribution(s)?

SAMPLE NARRATIVE

Jim has been an outstanding civic leader diligently working towards the betterment of his community. He has pledged his efforts to a number of community causes and organizations with a strong commitment to fund raising which has provided the resources necessary to reach and touch the lives of others.

Jim has been an outstanding role model to youth. Through his tireless efforts, positive direction and personal involvement he was instrumental in formulating and starting the San Jose P.A.L. program in which he served as Executive Director from 1969 - 1981. Through these years he touched the lives of hundreds of young people and inspired and motivated them to greater heights of accomplishment and achievement.

Jim was instrumental in establishing and constructing the P.A.L. stadium and in acquiring 17 acres, which was donated by Emma Prusch to develop as a permanent recreational field for youth. A complex where young people would utilize their time, energies, and talents in a productive manner enhancing their skills and citizenship and becoming better equipped to serve in their adult lives.

Jim, through his efforts and leadership, led the P.A.L. program into one of the most respected and revered youth programs in the nation. While under his guidance, the organization was the recipient of the prestigious National Model program award from the U.S. Department of Health and Welfare. The San Jose P.A.L. program was the only P.A.L. organization in America to ever win this prestigious award.

During his professional career, Jim served as a devoted public servant for twenty-five years as a member of the San Jose Police Department protecting and safeguarding his community as a devoted officer. During his tenure in the department he served as a supervisor of the Youth Services Bureau and liaison to Boy's City Boys Club again touching and motivating youth.

Jim spent a great deal of his professional career speaking throughout the community on issues such as substance abuse and juvenile laws to better acquaint the community with vital issues of significance to both youth and parents.

Jim consistently promoted police work during his tenure with the police department and was instrumental in forming the Police Athletic League Law Enforcement Unit motivating numerous boys and girls to actively pursue careers as peace officers.

Jim along with the Almaden Valley Rotary Club in 1974 started the "Charlie Wedemeyer" Santa Clara County All-Star Football game rewarding young athletes of achievement and accomplishment for their dedication to their athletic talents.

Jim has been recognized by the California State Senate, the California State Assembly, the Governor, the Lt. Governor, the Secretary of State, the County Board of Supervisors, the San Jose City Council, the Mayor of San Jose, the Optimists as Optimist of the Year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Almaden Valley Rotary Club, the California State Scholarship Association, and has been recognized as Rotarian of the Year for his work in Rotary.

James J. Guido is one of those unsung heroes in our community who has dedicated much of his adult life to serving and mentoring youth. He is an individual who has made an extraordinary contribution of time, energy, and love devoted toward serving the youth and citizenry of our county.

As a result of his efforts and contribution, the young people of our community and the citizenry as a whole enjoy a more meaningful and rewarding life.

In 1991, a testimonial dinner was held in Jim's honor to recognize him for his outstanding contributions. That night the James J. Guido "Salute to Youth Awards" were established so that there would be a perpetual on going awards program in recognition of Jim's contributions to our community life.