

United Way of Southern Chautauqua County

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Robert L. Peterson Receives Mason Award

Robert L. Peterson was honored posthumously Wednesday with the United Way of Southern Chautauqua County's Joseph H. Mason Community Service Award for 2010.

Mr. Peterson passed away in March. He was a member of Carpenters Local 66, serving on its executive board for six years. As a member of the Carpenters Union, he built wooden toys for the Salvation Army to distribute to children at Christmas. He was also active in the Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, where he made and donated wooden items for fundraisers, and packed and delivered Christmas boxes for veterans in nursing homes and hospitals. He was a member of the firing squads for the veterans organizations, and was past Commander of the DAV and chairman of the DAV Forget-Me-Not Drive. Mr. Peterson was a former allocation panel member for the United Way and also volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, and was a member of Lakewood Rod & Gun Club, Carroll Lodge, and the Jamestown Consistory. The award was accepted by his widow, Donna.

In nominating Mr. Peterson, past Mason Award winner Jeff Aiken of the Carpenters Union said, "Bob truly deserves this award. He did so much for the veterans of our community. This is a fitting tribute in memory of Bob."

The award was presented by the son and son-in-law of Joseph H. Mason, Joe Mason and Chuck DeAngelo, during the annual United Way Salute to Labor Dinner, held at the Jamestown Elk's Lodge. The United Way of Southern Chautauqua County presents the Joseph H. Mason Award annually to a union member or staff person whose volunteer service to the community honors the spirit of involvement exhibited by the late Joseph H. Mason. It is given to a union member or employee who is actively involved in community service. The award recipient is chosen each year by a committee of past winners led by United Way board members Gary Sorenson, IBEW 459, retired; Mike Dye, Empire State Carpenters Region 4; Steve Skidmore; CSEA 807; and Steve Maggio, NYSUT, retired.

Joseph H. Mason Award Winners

2010	Robert L. Peterson	Carpenters Local 66
2009	William J. Servis	Road Sprinkler Fitters
2008	Jack C. Rudy	CSEA 903
2007	Vincent Ognibene	IAFF 1772
2006	Charles Gesing	UAW 338
2005	Joseph Genco	Kendall Club PBA
2004	Paul Whitford	IAMAW, District 65
2003	Jeff Aiken	UB of C&J 66
2002	James Kurtz	CSEA 807
2001	Robert Jurewicz	NYSUT
2000	G. Daniel Butera	IAFF 1772
1999	Clarence "Pete" Peterson	IAMAW, District 65
1998	Michael S. Dye	UB of C&J 66
1997	Vincent Capizzi	IAFF 1772
1996	Anthony Purpura	AFSCME 418
1995	James Ventura	UAW 338
1994	Gary Sorenson	IBEW 1124
1993	Michael Berg	Teamsters 649
1992	Helen Sischo	IAMAW 2495
1991	Dana Ericson	IAM 2105
1990	Bruce A. Rhinehart	IAFF 1772
1989	Michael Piazza	UAW 338
1988	Stephen D. Maggio	Jmtn. Teachers Assoc.
1987	Dorothy Brooks	Musicians 134
1986	George Spitale	AFSCME 418
1985	Pete Thorstenson	UAW 338
1984	Russ Love	UAW 338
1983	Anthony Raffa	IBFO 27
1982	Milton Roberg	IAMAW 1888
1981	Dennis Ewing Sr.	SMW 439

