



Gerald Lutz

Gerry Lutz, a Hixson Fellow, has been a great asset, not only to Kiwanis but to the State of Michigan and to the Nation.

Born in 1934, and with vision problems, his education went through Ypsilanti schools, Lansing's School for the Blind, Ann Arbor High School Graduation, and on to a Bachelor's Degree from University of Michigan. A well-known fixture in Ann Arbor, Gerry became a member of the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor Eastern for many years until its demise, when he continued Kiwanis through the Dexter Club, serving on its board.

Gerry served in many Kiwanis capacities, including all the levels leading to his presidency of the Ann Arbor Eastern Kiwanis. He was Lt. Governor of Division Ten, served as District Committee Chair of Youth Services, Spiritual Aims, as well as long time Chairman of the History Committee for the District and the Past Lt. Governor's Council, where he served as a trustee from Division Ten for many years. Several new Kiwanis Clubs have been formed by his efforts, as well as numerous new memberships locally and statewide. He's become one of the most recognized Kiwanians in the District by his contacts as KIAR (Kiwanis International Accredited Representative).

At least four decades of service to Kiwanis were accompanied by active participation in local, state and national organizations, civic, religious, and political.

Locally, he served:

- Ann Arbor Youth Commission as a member and also a Vice-Chairman,
- Ann Arbor Taxicab Commission, (member and chairman),
- Ann Arbor Jaycees, (member, vice-president, board of directors),
- Ann Arbor YMCA Y's Men President, (and later YMCA District Governor).
- Ann Arbor Salvation Army Board (Social Services and Advisory Board)
- Bethlehem United Church of Christ (Sunday School Teacher & President of Churchmen's Fellowship),

County Wide, included:

- Washtenaw County Emergency Medical Services Commission (Chairman)
- Emergency Medical Services Coordination Committee
- Washtenaw Bioterrorism Committee
- Washtenaw Association of Life Insurance Underwriters (Co-Chair and Legislative Chairman),
- Republican Party Delegate to State and National Conventions.
- American Cancer Society--Washtenaw Unit Area Chairman, South Central Unit Board of Directors--Michigan Div.

For the State of Michigan:

- State Special Education Advisory Committee
- State Commission on Disability Concerns
- State Bioterrorism Committee,
- Michigan Commission on Handicapped Concerns,
- Vocational Rehabilitation Advisory Council.

Nationally, he served under JFK on the President's Commission for Handicapped.

Outstandingly, he did all this with names and telephone numbers committed to memory, as he was legally blind, but with special glasses which allowed him to read (about an inch away from his eye); he was a voracious reader. Truly, the term "Distinguished Kiwanian" fits him well.

With all this, he also did his work as insurance representative for the McKerecher-Williams Insurance Agency where he has been employed for many years.