



Robert Gifford

KIWANIS CLUB of BATTLE CREEK



2435 West Territorial Road
Battle Creek, Michigan 49015

June 9, 1999

Robert Gifford has been selected by the Kiwanis Club of Battle Creek to be a distinguished Kiwanian.

He joined our club in 1961, was president in 1972-73, secretary of the club for ten years, and wrote the weekly club bulletin with his dry humor for twenty years. In 1985 he was named Kiwanis Fellow and in 1996 he was named a George F. Hixson Fellow.

He married Nadine R Jackson on 9/27/1942 and has 4 children and 13 grandchildren.

He entered the Postal Service in 1940 and retired as Battle Creek Postmaster in 1976. He served in the 591st Army Postal Unit (Meritorious Service Unit) with 26 months in the European Theatre of War. He received the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 2 Bronze Stars and the Northern and Rhineland Campaign and Good Conduct Medal.

He was a member of the Battle Creek Board of Education (1959-99) 40 years and was President 8 terms.

Member of the Calhoun Intermediate Board of Education (1966-1999) 32 years and President 5 terms. Also among his many accomplishments are the following:

Member of the Committee of 100. (Vocational Education, Calhoun County) Member of the Citizens Committee on Special Education. (Calhoun County)

Member of the Kellogg Community College Board (1959-1973) 14 years and President 2 terms.

Trustee, Michigan School Board Members Assoc. (1976-83) 6 years.

Served as board Orientation Chairman, Western Area, 5 years.

Served as Federal Legislative committee Member 4 years, Chairman 1 year.

Served on Advisory Council for School Prog Ser., Mich State Bd of Ed.

Special Recognition

1973--Outstanding service to community--Federation of Police

1973--Community Service Award for voluntary service. (Mass Mutual Ins. Co.)

1974--Citizens Award, Calhoun Area School Board Members Assn.

1987--Special Recognition for outstanding Boardsmanship--Mich Assn Int
Sch Dist.

1994--Scene Magazine "Man of the Year", Battle Creek

1996--Inducted into the Michigan Education Hall of Fame.

Treasurer of First United Methodist Church 5 years and Supt of Church School for 8 years. Member of Board of Trustees and Bldg. Comm. and Chairman of Annual Financial Drive. (2 years)

These are just some of the many activities and honors of Bob's long and busy life.