



For immediate release

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### **H.D. “Ike” Leighty Inducted into Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame**

April 13, 2015 (*Waterloo, Iowa*) — A special recognition ceremony will be held on April 14 to honor the newest members of the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame. The Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame is the most prestigious state-level honor volunteers can receive. Honorees are recognized for their contribution to transforming their community, the state, the nation, or the world with their volunteer service and action.

**H.D. “Ike” Leighty will be inducted in the “individual category” of the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame. The category recognizes a person who has provided outstanding volunteer service to benefit others.**

Mr. Leighty was nominated by Stacy Van Gorp, Executive Director of the R.J. McElroy Trust. Van Gorp nominated Leighty because of his active volunteerism at age 99, and the role he has played in developing and sustaining the Mother Moon Service Scholarship program.

The Mother Moon Service Scholarship is a project of the Leighty Foundation ([www.leightyfoundation.org](http://www.leightyfoundation.org)). The mission of the Mother Moon Service Scholarship is to encourage and set a standard for individuals to give freely of their time and talent in service to others. Each year 10 high school juniors in Black Hawk County become Mother Moon Service Scholars. Recipients must demonstrate an attitude of caring, and volunteer at least 100 hours in a year. Once selected, scholarship recipients promote volunteerism during their senior year of high school. Since 1994, 179 students in Black Hawk County have earned a college scholarship for their past and future community service. The Leighty Foundation also supports Mother Moon Service Scholarships in McDonough County, Illinois. Ike grew up in Macomb, Illinois, in McDonough County.

The Leighty Foundation recently released a YouTube video about the program. Nick Rafferty, a Mother Moon Service Scholarship recipient who graduated last year from Waterloo West High School, narrates the video. Nick shares the story of his personal transformation through volunteer service.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bzmZXCKT2c>.

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The Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame launched in 1989. The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service organizes the event. Governor Branstad will present the awards. This year's inductees will receive an engraved award during the recognition ceremony. Their names will join the 157 Iowans already included on Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame plaque on permanent display in the State Historical Museum.

Van Gorp noted, "Not only has Ike been an exemplary volunteer during his long lifetime, but he has encouraged and supported generations of future volunteers. His actions create a ripple effect that extends for miles and generations."

Other 2015 Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame inductees include:

- Dr. Ida Johnson, Davenport – Individual Category
- Children & Family Urban Movement (CFUM), Des Moines – Organization/Nonprofit Category (not-for-profit organization providing voluntary service to others)
- Sisters of Mercy, Cedar Rapids – Group Category (several unrelated individuals volunteering together as a unit)

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