

## MERITORIOUS (Lifetime) SERVICE AWARD



Stan Akers was nominated as “Citizen of the Year” by Joe Pandy based upon his service to the community for over 40 years. Joe Pandy presented Stan with the award at a banquet hosted by the Miami County Community Council November 16, 2016.

Mr. Pandy stated that Stan Akers is currently the Chairman of the Board of Peru Utilities, the publicly owned electric, water, wastewater and stormwater utilities of the City of Peru. Stan is in his 19<sup>th</sup> year as a Common Council appointed Board Member of

the municipal utilities, consisting of six separate entities. He has been Chairman of Peru Utilities Service board for over 10 years.

Stan became a volunteer for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), handling many cases for youngsters with problems; he conducted interviews at numerous homes, and went to Court on behalf of the children. Stan was sworn-in for this position by Prosecuting Attorney Bruce Embrey.

Stan has been a long standing supporter of the YMCA, while training challenged youth in swimming at the “Y”, and running at Peru High School Track – these hours of exercise training were in preparation for the Special Olympics Program.

Stan has given much to the community as a musician and artist:

- He has taught guitar to hundreds of youth and adults.
- His guitar group (with Kenny Gilliland) has played for numerous festivities, including the Grand opening of Krogers---their fees were always donated to the Children’s Hospital of Indianapolis.
- His group also played annual concerts for local nursing homes; their next event is October 29<sup>th</sup> at Miller’s Merry Manor senior center.

In 1999, the Republican Party asked Stan to run for Mayor of Peru; always effective as a “behind the scenes” leader, Stan declined the opportunity; letter in this regard is attached.

## MERITORIOUS (Lifetime) SERVICE AWARD (Continued)

Peru Mayor Dave Livengood appointed Stan Akers to the Board of Public Works of the City, where his knowledge and leadership were also evident. It was told that when Governor Evan Bayh came to Peru he was introduced by Stan Akers.

Stan briefly worked at the Miami County YMCA to organize transportation services. He also drove a school bus for the Peru School System for over 16 years. He has played at all of the local schools where his guitar students attend. He has also served as a substitute teacher (grades 3-6) at Blair Pointe Elementary School.

Artistic in all modes of painting, Stan has focused on water colors for more than 20 years, many of his 500 paintings are displayed on Facebook.

Stan and his wife of 54 years, have a son and three daughters; his son has been a Pastor and Counselor; his daughter is a Registered Nurse at Dukes Memorial Hospital; another daughter works at school in Aurora, Indiana, and another has worked at Aldi Foods in Peru.

Stan is well known to be a leader, a caring and involved citizen, and having a special commitment to the youth of Miami County.

Upon accepting the award, Mr. Akers voiced his appreciation and support for Peru and Miami County, as well as for community involvement.