



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

2027 NOMINATION FORM

The INA Distinguished Service Award is presented each year at the association's annual convention to the individual(s) in the state who, in the opinion of the selection committee, best meet(s) the following criteria:

1. The nominee must be an employee or former employee of or contributor to an Iowa newspaper or associated with a university, college or newspaper association having close ties with Iowa newspapers;
2. The nominee shall have contributed greatly to his or her newspaper, and/or to his or her community and or the newspaper industry in general;
3. Longevity should have little effect on the nominee's qualifications;
4. Individuals who have received the INA's Master Editor-Publisher award are not eligible to win the Distinguished Service Award.

I nominate the following individual for consideration by the selection committee to receive the INA Distinguished Service Award:

Name: _____ Newspaper: _____

Nominated by:

Name: _____ Newspaper: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Please include all relevant support materials.

This award is open to all members of the newspaper staff! Potential candidates might be advertising directors, circulation managers, back shop superintendents and press operators, as well as news and sports editors, publishers and business managers.

The award is one of the most prestigious awards given to newspaper professionals in Iowa. The selection committee of past recipients is instructed to be very demanding. The award(s) will be presented at the Past Presidents' Luncheon during the INA Convention on February 4, 2027.

Nominations not selected will also be considered in 2027 and 2028. Some people may have been nominated for this award in the past but did not receive it due to a lack of information about the nominee. Nominators should feel free to re-nominate such individuals and include more details about their qualifications.

Contributions should be over a period of time and all three areas (newspaper, community and industry) are considered.

A complete nomination will include the following:

- A letter of support from the nominator
- Basic resume of the nominee's service to the newspaper and the community
- Additional letters of support from community members, co-workers or others
- Other materials that support the nominee's application

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATION: JULY 20, 2026

Mail to: Iowa Newspaper Association, Attn: Jana Shepherd, 319 East 5th Street, Des Moines, IA 50309 | **Email to:** jshepherd@inanews.com

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

1982

Frank Nye, Cedar Rapids Gazette
Matt Lawrence, Ottumwa Courier
Paul Norris, Marshalltown Times-Republican

1984

Donald Lundgren, Clinton Herald
Les Moeller, Iowa City Daily Iowan
Al Efner, Ottumwa Courier

1985

J. Burl Tiedemann, Adel Dallas County News
Harry Mauck Jr., Council Bluffs Nonpareil
Esther Williams, Vinton Cedar Valley Daily Times

1986

John McCormally, Burlington Hawk Eye
Harold Roberts, Creston News Advertiser
Max Maxon, Webster City Freeman Journal

1987

Frederick Simpson, Atlantic News-Telegraph
Bill Kunerth, Iowa State University
Harold Bailey, Perry Chief

1988

Hollis Nordyke, Ames Tribune
L. Jay Smith, Fort Dodge Messenger
Jackson Baty, University of Northern Iowa

1989

David Kruidenier, Des Moines Register
Herb Strentz, Drake University
Lois Jacobs, Marshalltown Times-Republican
Cal Olson, Sioux City Journal

1990

Genevieve Mauck Stoufer, Council Bluffs
Rick Morain, Jefferson Herald
Rosalie Johnson, Eldridge North Scott Press
Helen Zogg, Eldridge North Scott Press

1991

Dale Kueter, Cedar Rapids Gazette
Oline Stigers, Cedar Rapids Gazette
Harrison "Skip" Weber, INA
Ron Slechta, Tama News-Herald

1992

Robert Woodward, Drake University
Phyllis Fleming, Cedar Rapids Gazette
William Zima, University of Iowa

1993

Larry Johnson, Fort Dodge Messenger
Al Pinder, Grinnell Herald-Register
Carolyn Cole Gage, Villisca Review

1994

Beth Dalbey, Adel Dallas County News
Ken Robinson, Bayard News-Gazette
Brian Cooper, Dubuque Telegraph Herald
Jerry Moriarity, Mason City Globe-Gazette

1995

Bill Mertens, Burlington Hawk Eye
Richard Goughnour, Mediapolis News
Joe Roth, Hampton Newspapers
David Johnson, West Branch Times

1996

Dave Paxton, Albia Newspapers
Mary Lou Hinrichsen, DeWitt Observer
Shirley Omer, Primghar O'Brien Co. Bell

1997

Mark Bowden, Cedar Rapids Gazette
Harold Aardema, Doon Press

Margaret VanderWeerd, Sully Diamond Trail
News

Gene Bloom, Woodbine Twiner (posthumous)

1998

Marni Mellen, Fairfield Daily Ledger
Jay Mohr, Sibley Osceola Co. Gazette Tribune
(posthumous)

Tom Johnson, Waukon Standard
Merle Kent Shawd, Woodward NE Dallas Co. Record

1999

Gary Spurgeon, Bloomfield Democrat
James Flansburg, Des Moines Register
Tom Emmerson, Iowa State University
Jack Marlowe, Maquoketa Sentinel Press

2000

Dave Storey, Cedar Rapids Gazette
LeAnn Pisarik, Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun
Dr. Kenneth Starck, University of Iowa

2001

Jack Crook, Knoxville Journal-Express
Barb Lyon, Mapleton Press
Jim Magdefrau, Newspapers of Benton Co.

2002

Paul Gauthier, Corning-Adams Co. Free Press
Jay P. Wagner, Des Moines Business Record
Gil Cranberg, Des Moines Register
George Mills, Des Moines Register

2003

Michael Gartner, Des Moines
Walt Stevens, Fort Dodge Messenger
Bill Casey, Iowa City Daily Iowan
Edward "Mike" Lyon, Mapleton Press

2004

Don Magdefrau, Belle Plaine Union
Tom Yunt, Dubuque Telegraph Herald
Amy Duncan, Indianola Record-Herald & Tribune
Karen Young, Seymour Herald

2005

Mark Wicks, Charles City Press
Connie White, Creston News Advertiser
Drake Mabry, Des Moines Register / Ames Tribune
Gary Alban, Ogden Reporter

2006

Ron Schuety, Altoona Herald-Mitchellville Index
Randy Evans, Des Moines Register
LeAnn Larson, West Union Fayette County Union

2007

Bob Andersen, Elkader Clayton County Register
Wayne Davis, Seymour Herald

2008

Terry Wilson, Davenport Quad-City Times
Bill Wundram, Davenport Quad-City Times
Bill Tubbs, Eldridge North Scott Press
Sharon Alban, Ogden Reporter

2009

Mary Rueter, DeWitt Observer
Jo Martin, Iowa Falls Times-Citizen
Jay Luther, Iowa Falls Times-Citizen

2010

Jim Normandin, Dubuque Telegraph Herald
Alan Mores, Harlan Newspapers
Jeff Grant, Sheldon N'West Iowa Review

2011

Bill Monroe, Iowa Newspaper Association

2012

Chuck Offenburger, Des Moines Register
Kathleen Richardson, Drake University
Norma Thurman, Stuart Herald

2013

Barbara Mack, Iowa State University (posthumous)
Max Heath, National Newspaper Association
Keith Luchtel, Nyemaster Goode
Stuart Clark, Tipton Conservative

2014

Bill Rediger, Dyersville Commercial
Irene Wilcox, Madrid Register-News
Connie Wagner, Sheldon N'West Iowa Review

2015

Rox Laird, Des Moines Register
Larry Peterson, Creston News Advertiser
Michael Giudicessi, Faegre Baker Daniels

2016

Bruce Binning, Denison Bulletin & Review
Chris Mudge, Iowa Newspaper Association
Vicky Decker, Seymour Herald

2017

Michael Bugeja, Iowa State University
Deb Geisler, Jefferson Herald
Doug Melvold, Maquoketa Sentinel-Press
Scott Sundstrom, (former) INA lobbyist

2018

Scott Spurgeon, Bloomfield Democrat
Don Dauterive, Iowa Falls Times Citizen

2019

Dorine Peterson, Creston News
Perry Bell, Knoxville Journal Express
Nick Workman, Ottumwa Courier

2020

Nancy Steburg, Kossuth County Advance
Mark Witherspoon, Iowa State Daily

2022

Steve Plain, Marshalltown Times-Republican

2023

Lyle Muller
Mark Ridolfi, Eldridge North Scott Press

2024

Mary Sharp, Cedar Rapids Gazette

2025

Mark Davitt, Indianola
Corey Lindsey, Leon
Susan Patterson Plank, Gannett

2026

Barb Arland-Fye, Davenport Catholic
Messenger