



## **DON HEYLIGER YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

Don E. Heyliger  
1939-1988

### **BACKGROUND:**

Donald “Don” Heyliger, Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Dover at the time of his death, was respected and appreciated by many young professionals who, during their student years, worked as interns and part-time employees in the Dover recreation system. A number of his protégés went on to full-time recreation professional positions in the cities and towns of New Hampshire.

Don was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, graduated from Springfield College in 1961, taught and coached in Massachusetts public schools, and earned a Masters Degree at the University of Massachusetts in 1969. He then came to New Hampshire where he became assistant professor of physical education at the University of New Hampshire and coached men’s varsity soccer. Don became Director of Parks and Recreation in Dover in 1976.

Don Heyliger served as President of the New Hampshire Recreation Society during 1985-86. He was greatly respected by his colleagues statewide, and was close to other recreation professionals in the seacoast area. He was also active in and served on the boards of directors of other civic and professional associations.

Lynn White, Don’s widow, said that Don loved people of all ages and enjoyed seeing them happy and active.

### **ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA:**

- Nominee should be a current member of the New Hampshire Recreation and Park Association and the National Recreation and Park Association.
- Nominee should have been a member of the NHRPA for at least two years.
- Nominee should have held a full-time position for at least two years.
- Nominee should have served no longer than five full years as a full-time professional.
- Nominee must demonstrate professionalism in the Association and at work.
- Nominee should work above and beyond the call of duty.
- Nominee should be an innovator – who brings new ideas, concepts, and enthusiasm and who uses energy to implement new approaches in the Association and at work.
- Nominee should continually promote recreational ideas.
- Nominee should demonstrate leadership abilities.
- Nominee should have support of work supervisor for nomination.

### **SUBMISSION:**

- Required:
  - How does the nominee demonstrate professionalism in the Association and at work?
  - How does the nominee work above and beyond the call of duty?
  - How is the nominee an innovator? (Explain how they bring new ideas, concepts, enthusiasm, and new approaches to the Association and at work)

- How does the nominee continually promote recreational ideas?
  - How does the nominee demonstrate leadership?
  - Please attach a letter of recommendation from the nominees direct work supervisor.
- 
- Recommended:
    - News articles
    - Letters of support
    - Photographs
    - Flyers
    - Other reasons or back up material for nomination

**SELECTION:**

The New Hampshire Recreation and Park Association Awards Committee will evaluate and make decisions on nominations. Only information that is submitted in the application will be considered. Selection will be based on a complete and professional application; the merits of the information presented and whether the candidate or program is the most deserving nominee.

**AWARD:**

The Awards Committee will present a plaque at the annual NHRPA Awards Banquet to the nominee who best exemplifies the criteria of the award.

**DEADLINE:**

Applications must be submitted to Krystal Alpers, 12 Rowell Drive, Franklin, NH 03235 or by e-mail to [kalpers@franklinnh.org](mailto:kalpers@franklinnh.org)