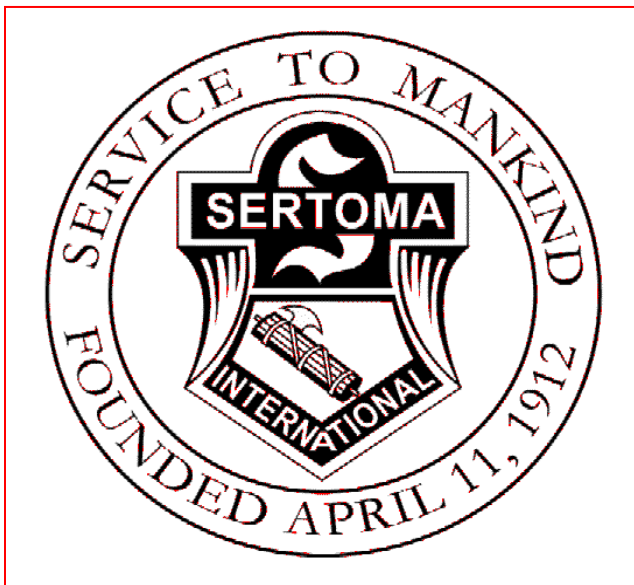


INVERNESS SERTOMA

2015 -2016

SERVICE TO MANKIND

RECIPIENT



Dante Caldera

Every year Sertoma Clubs all over this Nation recognize someone in their community that goes above and beyond to be of ...Service to Mankind... by volunteering her or his time... The Inverness Club has recognized individuals for the last 36 years.... The S t MK Award is based on the amount of volunteer community service is provided by a non-Sertoman to the community, state or nation. The committee reviewed several entrees of persons that give many hours besides their family life and work ... Persons such as.....

Rev Bellamy Not for preaching ...but for volunteering to fix homes of the needy

Such as insulating homes with shredded newspapers

Mark Yerman Not as JudgeHe Volunteers for the local BSA Troops ...

for scouts to earn merit badges and

puts in many hours for troubled kids@ Teen Court

Janet Gonter volunteered for Key Pine Village

John Barnes... not as a County Commissioner ... as volunteer he build

playground for kids and worked many clean up programs

Joan Rinehart... volunteer for the Sheriff's Office Senior vs Crime project ...

She helped ripped off seniors get over \$ 20,000 back

Chris Fineout... who volunteers at the Salvation Army ... and worked at

catastrophes and ran the Emergency Canteen Program

Barbara Mills her many hours dedicated to our Troops oversee s

Mary Opal volunteering with the " Forever Saving Angels " dog rescue group

and the Cedar Key Conservation Group

Alida Langley Many hours she volunteered to her Church and the people

less fortunate and needy in Floral City

This years club Recipient DANTE CALDERA also earned this award.....

His Father, Peter and Mother Josephine Caldera were immigrants from Italy. Their two sons Dante and Evo were born and raised in Greenwich Village, Manhattan. Dante was married twice to Teresa and Dorothy (both deceased)..... They're proud parents of 2 children- Deb and Don

Dante Caldera, a 20-year volunteer at Citrus Memorial Hospital, celebrated his 100th Birthday on March 13th..... At his Birthday Party the Newspaper Reporter asked him what its like to be that old.

"I don't think of myself as old," he said. "Age is just a number. From the hips down I feel 150. From the hips to my shoulders I think I'm quite good. From the shoulders up, it's dubious. "Mentally, I feel 45," he said. "I can't remember 100 years ago, of course, but I remember clearly when I was 10," he said. "I grew up in Manhattan, in Greenwich Village. We had six-story walk-up apartments, four apartments to a floor with four families sharing two bathrooms. We'd take baths in the kitchen, and on Saturdays everyone would go to a central bath house for a shower. "Telephones? It wasn't even heard of," he said. A first-generation Italian American, Caldera's father and grandparents came from northern Italy. "My father was a chef and my grandfather was a baker," he said. "I was a civil engineer. I worked on dams and big buildings."

After graduation from college- Army Corp of Engineers in 1940 ..his first job was driving a truck and picking up refrigerators and carrying them up six flights of stairs," he said. Caldera didn't serve in the military but served his country with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "I didn't get shot at," he said.

1951 he became a Civil Engineer..... He Graduated from NYU;

During the years 1962-1982 as civil engineer he worked in Africa, Spain, Germany, England, Italy, South America and through out the United States. He was part of the team that designed and built Madison Square Garden

His favorite quotes, "Age is just a number. Dante is a big nature fan and loves National Geographic as well as the Smithsonian. Has also collected and made many photo cd's. "I do like to cook," he said. "I have a bunch of recipes from my mother or other family members, and I spend most of my computer work going through them, copying and editing them." His specialties are Osso Buco and chicken "hunter-style," although he doesn't know why it's called that. "I like to add my own little thing," he said. "I never make a recipe the same twice." He is very computer literate and has actually made his own recipe book .

In 1951, Caldera moved from Manhattan to Westchester County, then to Citrus County in 1993. His wife, Dorothy, died in 2012. Dante was her caregiver.

"When I retired in '85, I went to the local hospital in Westchester County to volunteer," he said. "I did that for eight years, then came to Citrus Memorial Jan. 1, 1995. I asked for the ER, but they didn't have any volunteer positions in the ER, so I did transport for two years."

However, if you go to the ER today and are greeted by a volunteer, you can thank Dante Caldera. He's the one who created the department's volunteer program and worked there for many years until transferring to same-day surgery.

In 2006, he was named CMH Volunteer of the Year. "He's a leader with innovative ideas," said Penny Zaphel, CMH volunteer manager. "He just takes a job and runs with it, and he loves to lead and train people. You can depend on him."

He still is volunteering 1 day per week in outpatient surgery.

As for his longevity, Caldera tells people, "I was nasty when I was younger and God said, 'Stay there and suffer a little longer.' But seriously, you have to have a sense of humor." He also said he drinks espresso in the morning and red wine at night. And I keeps breathing. He still drives, still cooks, still volunteers once a week..

He was a member of Annunciation Church and sang in the Choir
He volunteered with the Our Lady Of Fatima Catholic Church from 1995 until 2011;
He was a great teacher....especially in math and English.
He is a member of the Knights of Columbus for 56 years
a Knight in the 4th degree; He sometimes still attends meetings.
He is still a member of Fort Copper State Parksince 1995

During his working years Dante & his brother Evo worked on many projects
including renovations, carpentry, gardening and landscaping. He always was helping
and assisting friends and neighbors.

Inverness Sertoma is honored, humbled and proud to recognize and award

the 2015-2016 SERVICE TO MANKIND AWARD to..... Dante Caldera

Thank You Dante For all you do and have done....

Signed*The Members of the Inverness Sertoma Club*