

JOHN RESSEGUIE SR.

MAN OF THE YEAR 2012

WARNERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TODAY IT IS ONE OF THOSE SPECIAL DAYS THAT WE GET TO HONOR A MEMBER OF OUR CHURCH FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE. IT IS EVEN MORE SPECIAL FOR ME AS I GET TO PRESENT IT.

JOHN RESSEGUIE SR. WAS NAMED MAN OF THE YEAR EARLY IN 2012. AS IT HAS EACH TIME SINCE THIS HONOR HAS BEEN AWARDED, THE VOTING WAS UNANIMOUS. AT THE TIME WE KNEW THAT JOHN WAS FIGHTING MANY HEALTH ISSUES BUT HE ALWAYS RALLIED TO FIGHT FOR ANOTHER DAY. THE MAN OF THE YEAR IS USUALLY AWARDED BETWEEN MEMORIAL DAY AND 4TH OF JULY, HOWEVER, SADLY JOHN DID NOT RALLY THIS TIME. I FEEL BAD THAT I DIDN'T LET HIM KNOW THAT THIS YEAR HE WAS TO BE SO HONORED. I WILL ALWAYS REGRET THAT.

JOHN RESSEGUIE, SR. WAS BORN IN AUBURN, NEW YORK ON JANUARY 27, 1934. HIS FAMILY MOVED TO SYRACUSE WHEN HE WAS VERY YOUNG, BUT MOST OF HIS CHILDHOOD HE LIVED IN WARNERS. HE WAS BAPTIZED IN 1934 AND JOINED THE WARNERS CHURCH IN 1948. HE WAS VERY ACTIVE IN YOUTH FELLOWSHIP AND ALSO SUNDAY SCHOOL.

JOHN PLAYED BASKETBALL, BASEBALL AND FOOTBALL AT WARNERS HIGH SCHOOL WHERE HE GRADUATED IN JUNE OF 1952. WHILE ATTENDING HIGH SCHOOL, HE MET THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE, NANCY DEPAN. THEY WERE MARRIED IN THIS CHURCH IN JUNE OF 1954. THEY WOULD HAVE (4) CHILDREN, JOHN JR., MARY BETH, DAVID AND HEATH. JOHN WAS A GREAT PROVIDER, STARTING HIS WORKING CAREER AT CRUCIBLE STEEL MILLS, BUT FOUND HE WAS MUCH BETTER SUITED TO

BEING A SALESMAN SELLING MEDICAL SUPPLIES ALL OVER CENTRAL NEW YORK. IT FORMED A LASTING IMPRESSION ON HIM THAT EVERYTHING SHOULD BE RUN LIKE A BUSINESS.

JOHN BELIEVED IN GIVING BACK TO HIS CHURCH AND COMMUNITY AS WELL. OVER THE YEARS HE WAS WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, FIRE POLICE, A TOWN COUNCILMAN AND DELIVERED MEALS ON WHEELS. AS A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH, HE SERVED ON JUST ABOUT EVERY COMMITTEE AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER INCLUDING THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S AND AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH, HE WAS SERVING AS CHAIRMAN OF CHURCH COUNCIL AS WELL AS SERVING ON THE LAY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE, SPPRC, VISIONING COMMITTEE AND THE PROBE STAFF COMMITTEE.

JOHN HAD THAT EASY WAY ABOUT HIM THE ALLOWED HIM TO STRIKE UP A CONVERSATION WITH ANYONE AND ENJOY IT. HE ALWAYS WAS OUTSPOKEN AND SAID WHAT WAS TRULY WAS ON HIS MIND.

I DON'T COME IN THIS CHURCH WITHOUT REMEMBERING HIM SITTING IN THE PEW IN FRONT OF ME AT THE VERY END, THE SYMBOL AS THE HEAD OF HIS FAMILY, OR DID HE SIT WHERE HE DID JUST TO BUG DAVE WALKER????

I WILL END THIS HONOR OF HIM WITH A LITTLE STORY ONE OF THE LAST THINGS I REMEMBER HE DID. IT WAS IN THE REAR OF THE CHURCH AFTER SERVICE, HE CAME UP TO ME AND PUT OUT HIS HAND TO SHAKE MINE. AS HE TOOK MY HAND HE DREW ME TO HIM AND THEN AS HE PASSED ME HE SAID YOU ARE NOW A TRUSTEE. HE THEN WALKED RIGHT OUT THE CHURCH DOOR.

JOHN RESSEGUIE SR. MAN OF THE YEAR 2012 HE WILL BE MISSED!!!!

**TOM HOUSE
CHAIRMAN TRUSTEES WARNERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**