



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Lloyd Jost honored as USI Volunteer of the Year**

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Lloyd Jost, long-time Varsity Club member and University of Southern Indiana supporter, was named the first Volunteer of the Year Friday at the first annual Volunteer USI Recognition Luncheon. The 425 hours he contributed to club projects in 1996-97 is representative of the time he has devoted to USI since becoming active with the Varsity Club in the mid-1970s.

Jost is the husband of Joan Berridge Jost, long-time USI employee who was secretary in the Athletic Department when she retired a few years ago. She previously was administrative secretary to former USI President David L. Rice and was administrative secretary for many years to Dr. Donald Bennett, vice president for Student Affairs.

The Josts have worked together on many projects, such as the Varsity Club booth at the West Side Fall Festival (his project) or heading up the chili cookoff for four years for the Evansville Freedom Festival (her project). He has chaired the fall festival booth numerous times, an activity which takes at least three weeks — lining up and assigning the 300 volunteers and virtually living on West Franklin Street the week of the festival.

Jost was chairman of the Varsity Club in 1986, when the club room in the Physical Activities Center (PAC) was redecorated. His support of USI men's and women's athletics is not confined to the PAC, however, for Jost has rooted for the teams as far away as Alaska, Florida, and Las Vegas.

In the Volunteer of the Year presentation, it was noted that Jost's "affection for USI and his commitment to help all athletic programs succeed is unsurpassed. This has been a busy year for Lloyd as he has undertaken two major volunteer projects in addition to his ongoing support...(he) chaired the committee to build a new press box, concession stand, and storage facility for USI softball and cross country. The project was Lloyd's idea. He helped raise the money, secure donated products and services, and recruit other volunteers, while he personally worked over 299 hours to complete the building.

(more)

"Lloyd recruited volunteers and gathered donated prizes for the Varsity Club's golf outing....(he) attends board meetings and often works the concession stand or takes tickets at ball games or monitors the Varsity Club room....."

Jost's volunteerism isn't confined to USI. He retired in 1993 as supervisor of laboratory supplies and services for Bristol-Myers Squibb, where he worked on the company's U.S. Savings Bond drive for three years and was chairman one year. He was with the company 37 years, joining it in 1956 when it was still Mead Johnson & Company.

Jost also is active at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, where he was the first president of the Parish Council, worked on the parish's capital campaign, and continues to serve as a reader at mass.

He still finds time to frequent the Bristol fitness center, where he has been an "employee of the month," and he and Joanie can be found three or four times a week, walking the USI campus.

Among others singled out for special recognition at Friday's luncheon in Carter Hall at USI was Deryl Blackburn, an Evansville city fireman who spent 255 hours creating graphics for the television monitors which Student Life uses to keep students informed of meetings and activities around campus.

According to Volunteer USI records, 850 people contributed 53,621 hours to University programs and activities this past year -- 561 from the community, 158 alumni, 71 USI employees, and 30 students. This group includes 338 who donated 20 hours or more, 134 with 100 to 249 hours, 30 with 250 to 499 hours, nine with 500 to 749 hours, six with more than 750 hours, and four occupational therapy professionals who have given more than 1,000 each (three of them more than 2,000) while overseeing USI occupational therapy students in clinical situations. They hail from as far away as Florida and Texas.

Calculated at the minimum wage rate, the volunteers contributed more than \$260,000 to the University since the program got under way July 1, 1996.