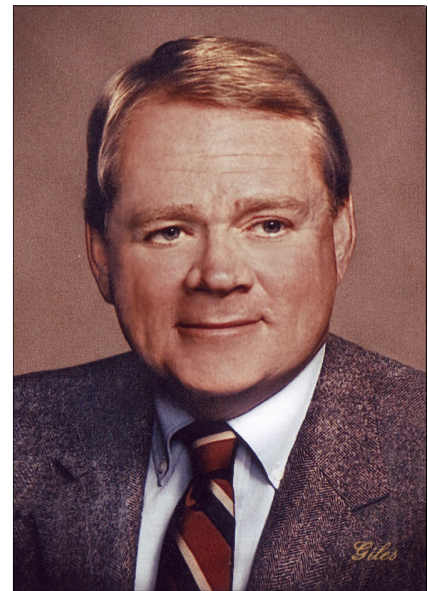


Eric J. Wahl

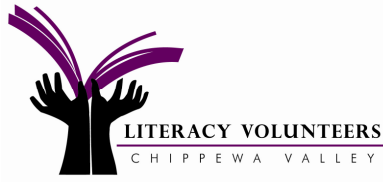
“Making a Difference”

Award



The Honorable Eric J. Wahl was born in 1942 in Saint Johns, Michigan. He grew up and attended school in Eau Claire, WI, graduating from Memorial High School in 1960. Educational pursuits took him to the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he earned a history degree in 1964. He continued at the University of Wisconsin Law School and graduated with his Juris Doctor degree in 1967. He joined the FBI in 1967 as a Special Agent and continued his education at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. earning a Master's of Law in 1971. In that same year he became an Assistant United States Attorney in Madison, WI. He served in that role until he entered private practice with Michael, Best & Friedrich in 1974. He returned to Eau Claire as a partner in Wahl and Wahl from 1976 to 1988 and then as a shareholder from 1988 to 1993 with Wiley, Wahl, Colbert, Norseng, Cray and Herrell, S.C. While practicing law, he continued his dedication to public service as a member of the Eau Claire City Council from 1978 to 1984 and as council president from 1981 to 1984. In addition to being involved in many other community organizations, he taught business law at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, served as president of the Eau Claire County Bar Association, joined the State Bar Board of Governors, served as special counsel for the Board of Professional Responsibilities for the Wisconsin Supreme Court, and chaired the Wisconsin Mediation and Medical Malpractice Panel System. He also served as president of the Wisconsin Board of Bar Examiners.

Eric Wahl was elected to the Eau Claire County Circuit Court, Branch 2 in 1993 and re-elected in 1999 and 2005. As judge, he used his vast legal experience, his love of the English language, his quick wit and sense of humor to preside with a unique sense of fairness, respect and compassion for all he encountered. These characteristics were reflected in his precisely written opinions and his talent for conveying a balance of firmness and empathy. He used humor in his courtroom to put people at ease. He made everyone who appeared before him feel that he cared about them, and he treated them fairly. He also had a knack for dealing with juveniles. He had the ability to quickly arrive at the heart of any matter before him. What set him apart was his reputation as the peoples' judge, his keen sense of humor and his love of family and community. Judge Wahl died unexpectedly in office in 2007.



Transforming Lives
One Person,
One Family,
One Job &
One Community
at a Time.

Eric J. Wahl “*Making a Difference*” Award Nomination Form

The *Making a Difference* Award was created in memory of the late Eric J. Wahl and his commitment to Literacy Volunteers-Chippewa Valley and the families we serve. An avid reader, Eric understood the importance of literacy in the lives of adults and their families. Eric volunteered as a tutor in the late nineties. His mother, Kathryn, also volunteered as a tutor for 11 years. Eric’s wife, Bette, was a founding member and served as president of the board of directors for Literacy Volunteers — Chippewa Valley.

This award recognizes an individual in our community who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to promoting reading and writing in the lives of those most in need. Recipients of this award are passionate about literacy and helping Literacy Volunteers-Chippewa Valley bring skills to the lives of adults in our community – this person makes a BIG difference!

Criteria:

Nominees must have present or past affiliation with Literacy Volunteers-Chippewa Valley. For example, a volunteer tutor or an adult student, a staff, board or committee member or a donor to the organization would be appropriate. The individual must demonstrate significant commitment and dedication to Literacy Volunteers and to the LV-CV mission.

Nominees must reside or work in Chippewa, Dunn or Eau Claire County. Each year’s recipient will be acknowledged at Literacy Volunteers’ annual May event, *Celebration of the Stars*.

To nominate an individual for this award, please complete the following nomination form and submit it to Literacy Volunteers-Chippewa Valley at the address listed below. All nominations must be received no later than April 30 and not exceed this one page (both sides) in length.

Please submit your nomination by May 5th, 2009 to: Literacy Volunteers-Chippewa Valley
Building D02, Suite 301
800 Wisconsin St. #70
Eau Claire, WI 54703-3610

Nominee Contact Information: (PLEASE PRINT)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

This person is nominated by:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City, state, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Continue on the other side.

Eric J. Wahl “Making a Difference” Award
Nomination Form Continued (PLEASE PRINT)

How is the nominated person affiliated with Literacy Volunteers- Chippewa Valley?

Why do you feel this person deserves to receive the Eric Wahl “Making a Difference” Award?

Signature of Nominator: _____ Date: _____