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Fwd: Bruce Benton

1 message

Dawn McFarland <dawn@mnmbenefitsolutions.com>
To: Dawn McFarland <dawn@mnmbenefitsolutions.com>

Thu, Apr 30, 2026 at 8:55 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

It is an honor to support the nomination of Bruce Benton for the Harold R. Gordon Memorial Award.

Bruce Benton may be from California, but he will always be an honorary New Yorker to me. I will never forget the first time I met Bruce. I was new to the NABIP (still NAHU at that time), and looking to get involved. A colleague brought me to a NY Metro Chapter Board meeting. Amongst some familiar faces around the table was someone I had never met or even heard of. A Yankee fan from California named Bruce. My colleague explained that he was past National President, and he wanted to help our chapter. I listened intently as Bruce shared his wisdom. His passion was palpable, and it was clear how knowledgeable he was. I clung to every word. This chance encounter early in my days as a member helped fuel my passion for NABIP.

The meeting was, of course, followed by a Happy Hour, where I found myself fortunate to be sitting across the table from Bruce, soaking up more of his insight. Bruce carries himself in a way that is, in equal measure, Zen-like calm, and fiery passion. He is both brilliant and humble, and never hesitates to help anyone. During my tenure on the New York State board, with similar legislative priorities between our states, Bruce has been a sage counselor.

The depth and breadth of his knowledge of our industry and Association is unmatched. And his mentorship of so many of us make him one of both our industry and our Association's greatest assets. Each time I attend a national event, the true start of the event for me is a greeting and hug from Bruce. It is truly an honor to support Bruce's nomination for the Harold R. Gordon Memorial Award. I will forever be grateful for his friendship and mentorship, and know of no more deserving candidate.

Daniel L. Wright

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