

POSTHUMOUS GORDON MEMORIAL NOMINATION

FOR

SHIRLEY HUTZLER

It is my honor to nominate my friend and mentor Shirley Hutzler in recognition of her life and professional contributions to our industry.

In the spirit of the industry contributions recognized by Harold R. Gordon, Shirley was the consummate example of understanding occurrences in “bell weather” states has direct impact on national efforts.

1993 and 1994 were years of enormous political battles that were, in hind sight, warm ups for the Accountable Care Act. During that time the national effort was led by Hillary Clinton. At the same time, our state governor was Ann Richards, was wanting a mirror image of Hillary’s proposal in Texas.

Under Shirley’s leadership, we successfully fought that battle and turned an onerous piece of legislation into what is now Chapter 26 of the insurance code in Texas. Shirley’s instructions to our lobbyist was to do what she said, when she said it and how she said it. At the exact same time Hillary’s legislative efforts were plowing through the Senate. The battles were enormous on all fronts.

She had an uncanny way of making you want to jump for joy to go into battle. She, along with Hollis, Donna Carnall and others forged leadership skills and a pools of talent that have served this state and national for years to come.

On a deeply personal note, Shirley was by my side during my battle to get my mother home from London where she passed away because she was too old for certain care. I bring this up as she knew exactly what was at stake with state and national battles. This personal battle took place during the final weeks of the Senate debate on Hillary’s bill.

She was hugely committed to our industry. She was hugely committed to excellence. She was hugely committed to all our members. She was tough and funny.

As with our other posthumous recipients, she moved the needle not only for our association but our industry as a whole and most importantly for us as individuals.

You will see attached:

Many recommendation letters

Her obituary

Memorial article for TAHU

Qualification for the Hutzler Legislative award which illustrate her guiding principles

The Harold R Gordon award form

In closing, Shirley impacted everyone that knew her and she would be an incredible worthy posthumous Recipient.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Ashmore

Past National President 2007-2008