

Patricia Griffey, RHU, REBC - Nomination for the Harold R. Gordon Award

I am writing to enthusiastically nominate Patricia (Pat) Griffey, for the Harold R. Gordon Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to leadership, mentorship, community service, and strategic vision.

As NABIP Past-President and Current NABIP member, Pat Griffey has consistently demonstrated exemplary leadership qualities, inspiring and motivating their team to achieve ambitious goals. Their ability to foster collaboration and innovation has significantly contributed to the success of NABIP's strategic direction. When Pat ran for the executive committee, a vacancy for Treasurer was available, she stepped up moving in to fill a void, being willing to give up her Secretary year.

Moreover, Pat has been an exceptional mentor, dedicating time, and resources to guide and support colleagues and mentees. Their mentorship has not only empowered individuals such as myself to reach their full potential but has also fostered a culture of continuous learning and development within the organization.

Since serving as NABIP's National President, Pat started a foundation, Pat's Promise, an Indiana-based Non-Profit Organization. When an organization receives government funds, they are tied to the rules on what the money can be used for. Pat's Promise funds help subsidize those areas where governmental funds cannot be used.

Both organizations, Camp Mack and Bashor help with children under the age of 18. Bashor Children's Home has ties to the United Methodist Church which Pat is a member of.

Camp Alexander Mack is a Christian Camp, Retreat, and Conference Center located on 200+ acres on the eastern shore of Lake Waubee in Northern Indiana. The facility is a ministry of the Indiana Camp Board and is affiliated with the Northern Indiana and South/Central Indiana districts of the Church of the Brethren. Since its beginnings in 1925, the camp has served as a place of leadership development and faith formation for the children, youth, and adults who have come through its arches.

In 1922, Bashor Children's Home began as the Bashor Deaconess Orphanage for boys on land donated to the Methodist Episcopal Church by John and Emaline Bashor. Since then, the organization has opened a medical clinic, providing services for mental health, alternative school options, and much more.

Pat's insurance career began as a file clerk in 1974, in a small property and casualty insurance agency in Milford, Indiana. In 1987, Pat joined The Goodwin Company in Mishawaka, Indiana, a General Agency offering health insurance products throughout Indiana and Michigan. In 2006, Pat purchased the agency. It was renamed Page 1 Benefits, Inc., and relocated to South Bend Indiana. Following significant growth there was a successful merger between Page 1 Benefits, Inc. and the Healy Group, in 2012.

Pat is an independent Risk Management Advisor at the Page 1 Agency, focusing on Medicare, Medicare Advantage, long-term care, small group health, and life insurance product offerings.

Her “career” with NAHU (now NABIP) started in the late 1990s within her local chapter, Greater Northern Indiana AHU. She held many positions in her local including serving as President in 2001, and again in 2011 and 2012. Simultaneously, Pat became active with the Indiana State AHU, serving as State President, in 2005. When the need arose, she continued the ISAHU board in many leadership positions including serving as treasurer for four consecutive terms.

In 2013, Pat was elected NAHU’s Region 3 Regional Vice President, representing the states of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia. While in this capacity Pat also served on the NAHU Board of Trustees Finance committee. During her time as RVP, Pat traveled throughout the region, assisting state and local chapters in supporting their local insurance communities.

Pat held the position of Region 3 RVP until being elected NAHU Treasurer in 2016, filling a void among the Executive Leadership team. As Pat moved through the chairs on the Board of Trustees, her leadership was key in helping NAHU navigate a very difficult time. In June of 2020, Pat was elected NAHU President. Again, her leadership was shown as she guided the organization through the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Throughout the years, Pat has been recognized as an industry leader. She was named Member of the Year by both her local and state chapters in 2006 and 2008, respectively. She received the NABIP Region III Linda Erlenbach Lifetime Achievement Award in 2023, the NAHU Distinguished Service Award in 2010, and the Indiana State Hoosier Spirit Award in 2012. Pat has dual membership in both, NAHU and NAIFA, she was also named Member of the Year by her local NAIFA chapter in 2010. Pat is also a Lifetime Qualifier of Leading Producer’s Round Table and has been a HUPAC Capitol Club contributor since 2008. She is also a five-time Triple Crown qualifier for membership recruitment, political activism, and HUPAC contributions.

Pat's dedication to both her profession and her community is truly inspiring. As a Stephen Minister at Faith United Methodist Church, she offers valuable 1:1 support and guidance to those in need, embodying the spirit of service.

Her involvement with the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce demonstrates her commitment to fostering economic growth and development in her region.

Pat's upbringing in Goshen, Indiana, is reflected in her present-day persona, characterized by compassion and active engagement. Her array of interests, including boating, bowling, dancing, golf, and photography, vividly showcases her lively spirit and enthusiasm for life. Moreover, her strong emphasis on family is evident in her deep bonds with her husband, children, and grandchildren.

Pat and Don's shared commitment to community involvement and their active participation in professional organizations like the NAHU exemplify their dedication to making a positive impact at both local and state levels. Their contributions undoubtedly leave a lasting legacy of service and goodwill in Elkhart and beyond.

Furthermore, Pat has demonstrated remarkable strategic vision, consistently anticipated trends and challenges, and developed innovative solutions to address them. Their forward-thinking approach has been instrumental in navigating complex business environments and driving sustainable growth.

Overall, Pat embodies the qualities and values that NABIP seeks to honor with the Harold R. Gordon Award. Her dedication, integrity, and commitment to excellence make them a deserving candidate for this prestigious award.

Thank you for considering Patricia Griffey for the Harold R. Gordon Award. Should you require any further information or references, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Susan Rider
NABIP Vice President, Indiana NABIP Member
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