

Shirley Hutzler Nomination for Harold R. Gordon Award 2020

To the Committee for the Harold R Gordon Award:

I met Shirley in 1985 when I promptly invited her to join our Austin chapter and work with us on the local Austin AHU board. I knew she would get any job done and with ease, eloquence and enthusiasm! Soon after Shirley and I had the idea to help get San Antonio AHU to the next level by taking our Austin Annual Symposium on the road in San Antonio. As TAHU Convention Chair she created a highly successful exhibit hall and was named "Trade Show Mama" as she worked tirelessly to get sponsors and booths for our TAHU convention. She worked with intense enthusiasm on so many projects too numerous to mention and recall here. While TAHU president she conducted several board meetings while recovering from major back surgery. She was so dedicated to our industry and association. Her many visits and meetings at the state capitol helped make our jobs easier as agents and carrier representatives to help our clients. As NAHU Region IV VP she led our region to new heights in membership and legislative goals.

As you can see, Shirley dedicated years of service to our industry and our association. She became involved in legislative affairs in 1991 while serving as TAHU 1st Vice President. Her legislative involvement has included acting as volunteer liaison to the Texas Legislature, the TX Department of Insurance, the Texas Health Insurance Risk Pool serving on panels, testifying before committees and making presentations to TAHU chapters across the state.

Shirley has also held many association offices including:

- ❖ Austin AHU President 1990-1991,
- ❖ Texas AHU Convention Chair, Legislative chair,
- ❖ Texas AHU President 1992-1993,
- ❖ NAHU Region VI Vice President 1993-1995.
- ❖ Texas AHU Lobbyist 1996 -2002

Her hard work and dedication earned her numerous recognitions and Awards including:

- ❖ Austin AHU Shirley Hutzler Award,
- ❖ Texas AHU Volunteer of the Year,
- ❖ Texas AHU Most Outstanding Texan,
- ❖ Three NAHU Distinguished Service Awards,
- ❖ NAHU Landmark Award under her Texas AHU Presidency,
- ❖ Texas AHU Hollis Roberson Award-1993 and
- ❖ The first recipient of the Texas AHU Shirley Hutzler Excellence in Legislation award.

As a result of our work together, she and I became close friends, which is the best part for me! Even after she retired, she was a mentor to so many members and leader. Our local, state and national organization was fortunate to have been blessed with her time, efforts and leadership throughout the many years she volunteered and served. Shirley lost her battle with her illnesses that she endured over the years on December 9, 2018. I am honored to have the opportunity to have known and to have worked alongside her. Her work is deserving of this most prestigious Gordon Memorial Award. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Linda New

Linda New

Past Austin AHU President, Past Texas AHU President, Texas AHU Trustee Emeritus

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