

CLASS OF 2009



CLAUDE GIRALTE

Passed away suddenly in 2005 at age 60 and recognized posthumously for his many years of service in promoting philately.

Active member of five southeastern Wisconsin stamp clubs: The Milwaukee Philatelic Society, the Wauwatosa Philatelic Society, North Shore Philatelic Society, American Topical Association Chapter 5, and the Kettle Moraine Coin and Stamp Club. Served as president and vice president of the Wauwatosa Philatelic Society and was president of the Kettle Moraine Coin and Stamp Club for over 10 years. Other memberships include the American Philatelic Society and the Sports Philatelists International.

Honored in 2002 at the Milwaukee-area Distinguished Philatelist Appreciation Dinner for visibly and repeatedly demonstrating an interest in stamp collecting as well as working to develop interest and enjoyment of the hobby for others.

Known as a prolific exhibitor and recipient of several state and national-level awards. He was a WFSC certified judge and was especially beloved by youth exhibitors, who enjoyed his patience in explaining the art of exhibiting and generous contributions of items to their collections. Frequently assisted with the Kettle Moraine Coin and Stamp Club's Ben Franklin meetings.

Born in France, where he began collecting stamps at the age of 10 or 11. Immigrated to the United States when he was 18 years old. An auto mechanic for Concours Motors for many years and served two years in the U.S. military.