



It's our name . . . and our promise.

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CEO and President

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Sages over 70
c/o dsm magazine
The Depot at Fourth
100 4th Street
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Members of the Selection Committee:

It is my privilege to write this letter in support of the nomination of Jim Vickery as a *Sage over 70*. I have known Jim since 1980 and I will address his involvement as a Rotarian.

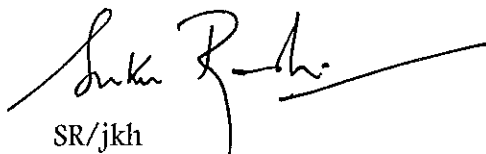
In 1981, Jim served as President of the Rotary Club of Des Moines. This club has a very rich history and is a part of the elite "Large Club" group based on its membership size. Its charter is #27 and it was founded in 1911. Today, worldwide, Rotary has over 34,000 clubs and over 1.2 million members. It is one of the finest civic organizations and the Rotary Club of Des Moines is no exception.

Jim was a superb President and displayed a tremendous passion to make the Rotary Club of Des Moines even better. The membership thrived under his leadership and it grew significantly. He helped others understand the mission of this great organization with his style of leading by example. At that time, I had just become a Director of the West Des Moines Rotary Club, but I attended many meetings of the Rotary Club of Des Moines. Jim inspired me to pursue deeper involvement in Rotary and I went on to become the President of the West Des Moines Rotary Club and ultimately, the Rotary Club of Des Moines.

He was instrumental in the formation of the Rotary Club of Des Moines Foundation which has an endowment of over \$1 million and supports a number of worthwhile causes in our community. Jim was not one to "disappear" after his term as President was over. He remained very active and mentored many of his successors regularly. As a matter of fact, in 1995, he was nominated to become District Governor of our Rotary District which included over 50 clubs. He served in this position in 1996/97 and visited every single club demonstrating the same great enthusiasm about the organization. He remains one of the most remembered district governors because he brought with him a wealth of Rotary knowledge and inspired others into action. Clubs in his district really became engaged in their respective communities.

Jim has touched many lives in a very positive way. His achievements outside of Rotary are significant. In every sense of the word, he is indeed a Sage. I urge you to honor this wonderful man appropriately.

Warmest regards,



SR/jkh