

Richard W. Crawford Jr.



Despite being well known for his political career on Grand Island, where he served as Town Councilman for 19 years, Richard “Dick” Crawford, is probably more importantly known for his dedication to the Grand Island Lions Club, and his active involvement and community service to countless organizations.

As a member of the Grand Island Lions Club, Crawford has served as President twice and chaired many of the club’s fundraising programs. He was honored with a Melvin Jones Fellow, the highest award given to a member and a Robert J. Uplinger Humanitarian award. The awards honor outstanding Lions who perform exemplary service to a Club, District, or Community. These honorees possess the highest examples of Lionistic, character, ideals, purpose, and service.

Crawford is also a founding member of the Grand Island Alumni Association which provides scholarships for college bound students. In addition, he has served on committees and supported the Grand Island Rotary, Zonta Club, Grand Island Republican Party, Kaegebein Playground committee, St. Stephens Playground committee, American Cancer Society, Elder – Grace Lutheran Church and Young Life. His memberships also include the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce, Niagara Sailing Club, and Life member of the VFW Auxiliary, Rod & Gun Club, Niagara Frontier Recreation and Park Society, Life Member New York State Recreation & Park Society.

As a former member of the Town Board, Crawford served as liaison to the Library Board of Trustees, Cable TV, Parks & Recreation, Traffic Safety, Highway Committee, Economic Development, Architectural Review, Citizens Corp and the Community Emergency Response Team. Working with these various committees and Town Hall personnel, he strived to provide top quality services, and maintain a fiscally conservative approach to spending and future planning for Grand Island.

As an elected official, he believes in providing an open forum to openly discuss and implement plans for the betterment of the town. After serving 10 years as the town’s Deputy Supervisor, and three years as Deputy Town Highway Superintendent, Crawford was elected Town Highway Superintendent, where he has received positive public acknowledgment for his response to community concerns as well as public support of the workers he supervises.

In addition, Crawford enjoyed 35 years working as an independent sales representative for orthopedic implant companies. He is a graduate of the Grand Island school system and SUNY Brockport and has been married to his wife, Marla, for 22 years.