



March 27, 2000 Wyandotte Distinguished Graduate Inductee



John (Jack) E. McCauley Class of 1942

John E. McCauley distinguished himself in a lifetime of service to our nation, community and state. He was a dedicated attorney, councilman, mayor, and state senator.

John McCauley, known as Jack to his friends, was an outstanding student and athlete during his years at Roosevelt High School. As a member of the 1941 swim team, he was instrumental in winning the State Class A Regional Trophy and the Golden W for the Border Cities League Championship. After graduation, Jack continued his swimming success at Michigan State University, where he won a Gold Medal in the 400-yard relay and set a NCAA record in this event.

Jack's college work was interrupted by World War II. He joined the armed services and after surviving D-Day at Utah Beach, he suffered severe burns and lost an arm during a campaign into the Black Forest region of Germany in 1943. Awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star, Jack did not let his injuries discourage him from continuing his education. At Wayne State University, he completed his undergraduate work, and in 1949 earned his Bachelor of Law Degree.

Jack McCauley built a successful law practice in Wyandotte, and in 1955 began his service to the community as an elected official. The citizens of Wyandotte recognized his loyalty and commitment and elected him a councilman for six years and Mayor for four years. John also served as a delegate to the State Constitutional Convention and Chairman of the Wayne County Board of Supervisors. In 1964, John E. McCauley was elected as State Senator of the 11th Senatorial District.

As a State Senator, Jack sponsored legislation to establish the State Lottery, control emission of pollutants into the state's waters, provide bonuses for veterans, and he also co-sponsored numerous other pieces of legislation. His goal was to improve the quality of life for Michigan's citizens. Jack McCauley died during his third term of office in 1975. He is survived by his wife Jeanette and son Patrick.

Jack was an active member of the American Legion Post 217, Kiwanis Club, Fraternal Order of the Eagles and the Michigan Bar Association. Jack McCauley's entire lifetime was one of unswerving endeavor and dedication in serving the people of his community, his state, and his nation.