



March 20, 1995 Wyandotte Distinguished Graduate Inductee



Richard T. Kelly
Class of 1931

Richard T. Kelly has done much to enrich the life of the Wyandotte community during a public service career which has spanned over 60 years. As the longest-serving councilman for the City he is a vibrant force in Wyandotte government. During his forty year tenure, he originated the Planning and Zoning Commissions, the Community Development Office and started the Capital Improvement Fund. He was a leader in the establishment of the municipally-owned cable television station and a driving force in the campaign for a cleaner environment.

With the compensation for his duties in city government, Mr. Kelly created the Richard T. Kelly Scholarship Fund. Since 1976, this annual scholarship has helped defray college expenses for many Wyandotte students.

Mr. Kelly has also been active in Wayne County Government as the Director of Purchasing, as well as being elected Wayne County Auditor. He has served on the County Board of Auditors, the Employee Retirement Board, the Drain Board and the Economic Development Corporation. He has shared his expertise with others through articles published in various professional magazines.

For many years, Mr. Kelly also volunteered for the National Foundation March of Dimes, raising money for research and programs, and has been honored with the National Distinguished Volunteer Leadership Award by that Foundation. Other honors include the National Appreciation Award for Outstanding Service in the Fight Against Polio; the Jaycees Distinguished Service Award, the News Herald Downriver Resident of the Year; the Lord Baden Powell Award for Service to Youth and Community; Michigan Week State Appreciation Award; Marine Corps Outstanding Citizen Award; and the City of Wyandotte Award for Outstanding Leadership.

Mr. Richard T. Kelly, through his years of service, has made many significant contributions to enhance the quality of life for Wyandotte and its citizens.