

Indiana General Agent John Stackowicz Retires



On February 1st, after 45 years with the Order, General Agent John Stackowicz will call it a career. And what a career it was.

John started out in 1973 as a field agent under his father, Joseph Stackowicz, who was a renowned general agent in northern Illinois from 1969 to 1993. When

John was promoted to general agent of northern Indiana in 1984, the business continued to be a family affair when he hired his brother-in-law, Bob Baloun, as a field agent. Bob worked for John for 25 years before retiring at age 68. Then, in September 2006, John contracted his son, Phillip, who is still with the agency today and continues to be a very successful field agent.

The goal of the Stackowicz Agency was to make every client happy every day. John and his agents constantly strived to provide members and their families with sound financial advice, enabling them to meet their financial security and protection needs.

During his long and storied career, John attended a remarkable 37 out of 44 incentive trips and was ranked in the Top 10 as a general agent three times. "My greatest achievement has been seeing my agents become successful and making the incentive trips," says John. "I consistently had five to seven agents making the award trips each year with one year having had eight attend."

Making a difference in people's lives with the power of life insurance is what John will cherish most from his career. "Knowing that I helped numerous widows and widowers live normal lives after their loved ones passed means a lot to me," said John.

On a personal level, John feels that the Knights made him a better Catholic as well as a better family man. "Ninety-nine percent of the friends I have come from the Knights of Columbus," said John.

John went to the University of Wisconsin and has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since age 18. A current member of the Father Stephen T. Baden Council 4263 in Granger, Indiana, and served as membership chairman and has been on the council's first degree team.

John is the past president of the Indiana Fraternal Insurance Counselors, the local General Agents & Managers Association (GAMA) and the local branch of the National Association of Insurance & Financial Advisors (NAIFA), where in 2007 he won the Herbert L. Cramer Award for being the "Advisor of the Year." He has served on the regional board of GAMA, and is a charter board member of the Penn Harris Madison educational foundation. John has attained the professional designations of Charter Life Underwriter (CLU), Fraternal Insurance Counselor Fellow (FICF), Life Underwriter Training Council Fellow (LUTCF) and Financial Services Specialist (FSS).

John and his wife, Millie, have raised five children, four of whom are Knights of Columbus members, as well as his one son in law, and have 11 grandchildren.

"It has been a privilege for me to spend most of my career here at the Home Office working with John. He has been a terrific representative of the Order's insurance program and a great ambassador to our fraternal brothers. His leadership and knowledge will be missed... but I will miss him personally as well," said Thomas P. Smith, Jr., chief insurance officer. "We wish John, Millie and the entire Stackowicz family all the best."