



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

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Knights of Columbus
Granite Award Search Committee
748 Coolidge Avenue
Manchester, NH 03102

October 23, 1995

Dear Brother Knights:

It is with pride and pleasure that I would like to nominate Brother Knight William Silvestri of Bishop Peterson Council, Salem, NH as recipient of the Granite Award. Bill is a most active member of Saint Joseph Parish and as his Pastor I can testify to the fact of his commitment to his faith in his daily activities, business ethics and ministry. He, along with his sons, serve as Ministers of the Eucharist at our weekend Masses. He is a member of the Finance Committee for the parish committing himself to hours of time and service far beyond the ordinary call of duty as a Christian man. Through his efforts, and his own personal expense, the church was made handicap accessible, the entire lower level of the church was totally renovated. Through his personal effort and expense a shrine of Mary was added to the parish grounds, ramps and deck were provided for the Sisters at the convent, new exits and landscaping for the school and parish buildings were all completed.

In addition to those "tangible" items mentioned above, Bill is probably the most ethical businessman I know, forgoing financial gain in order to live up to his level of Christian business ethics. I know firsthand that he suffered great financial loss by pulling out of a business venture because he could not condone nor participate in what he thought to be unethical, because as he said, "I still have to sleep at night".

Bill, together with his wife Karen, have outstanding communication with their three children and I know that his sons Chris and Jason and their daughter Holly truly have great respect for them as parents who live out their faith daily with a genuine concern for one another and those around them.

In addition to his daily activities and his countless hours of work for his parish, Bill has truly been a leader and worker for our local Knights of Columbus Council as well as for the Sisters of

Mercy at their Motherhouse in Windham. He responds wholeheartedly and enthusiastically to any request from his parish, his Council, the Sisters, his community and his family. And I am sure if he were to read this letter he would be rather embarrassed and say that he was just doing what he feels he should be doing without looking for any glory, reward or recognition.

Bill and his family are truly an asset to this community, this parish of Saint Joseph and to the Knights of Columbus. I can think of no one more deserving of the honor of the Granite Award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard W. Connors".

Very Rev. Richard W. Connors, V.F.

Pastor