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Huff Honored with Raymond Mauk Award

William H. "Bill" Huff, vice president of Regulatory Affairs for Affirmative Insurance, was presented the Raymond Mauk Leadership Award Thursday, July 23, in Austin, at the 17th Annual Mid-Year Property and Casualty Symposium. Huff becomes the twelfth recipient of the prestigious award.

The Insurance Council of Texas (ICT) presents the Raymond Mauk Leadership Award at its Mid-Year Property and Casualty Insurance Symposium each year. It is the Council's highest honor and is intended to bestow recognition on those whose labor has made a significant difference in the business of insurance.

After graduating from the University of Wisconsin, Huff entered the U.S. Army Medical Corps and rose to the rank of captain. After receiving his law degree at Drake University, Huff was elected to the Iowa State Legislature. After serving only one term, he was appointed by the governor to serve as the state's insurance commissioner.

As insurance commissioner Huff was active in the National Association of Insurance Commissioners where he advanced important consumer issues such as unfair claim settlement practices and life insurance cost disclosure. He wrote the first NAIC market conduct manual and developed the first complaint handling logs for both insurance departments and companies. He was elected president of the NAIC in 1975.

In 1976, Huff moved to Dallas and began working at Employers Casualty and helping the entire Texas property and casualty industry. Huff served as chairman of the Texas Medical Liability Insurance Joint Underwriting Association twice, chairman of the Texas Market Assistance Program, president of the Association of Fire and Casualty Companies in Texas (AFACT) and served as founding director of the Workers Compensation Research Institute. Huff currently serves on the board of the National Arthritis Foundation.

Bill and Judy Huff have three children and they reside in Dallas.

About the Award

The Raymond Mauk Award honors former Texas Fire Commissioner Raymond Mauk and annually recognizes someone who has made a notable contribution to the Texas property and casualty insurance industry.

Mauk enjoyed a long and distinguished career and held many positions of leadership within his company and industry organizations.

More than 70 years ago, Commissioner Mauk was convinced that fundamental change was needed to protect the insurance buying public and the integrity of the marketplace from the misapplication of rates and forms.

To accomplish his goal, Mauk envisioned the creation of a central checking office that would enforce good business practices and audit the insurance industry's paperwork for errors and competitive greed. Often facing great opposition and the traditional resistance to change, Mauk labored for two years to build support from both agents and companies.

By February 1935, Mauk's leadership had led to the successful establishment of the Texas Insurance Checking Office, an institution, which continues to serve the Texas industry today.

The Insurance Council of Texas is the largest state insurance trade association in the country consisting of approximately 500 property and casualty insurers writing business in Texas.

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