

## **CCRA 2022 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

### **PATRICIA GRAVES**

Hi, everyone. It's so good to see you all here in person and virtually.

I'm Lisa Wagner. I'm here on behalf of the Distinguished Service Award Committee, which consists of myself, Kathy Scheer, and Tammy Kelley, to present this award to a very deserving reporter. In fact, we believe, along with everyone we talked to, that it is long overdue.

The DSA is the highest honor anyone can receive from CCRA. It is bestowed upon someone who has been involved in the reporting profession on an extensive level during which they have rendered distinguished service which has contributed to the promotion and dedication of verbatim reporting.

There are many factors to consider when awarding the DSA such as services rendered to state associations, our national association, participation in committees, board service, writing articles for publication, speaking and presentations. This recipient hits all those marks and more.

One of the comments we received was "She has given selflessly of herself for the good of CCRA and she didn't quietly go away after her presidency. She has always made herself and even her employees available to give seminars and/or speak at numerous CCRA seminars and functions." Another comment was, "She is an impressive woman: intelligent, kind, driven, such a pleasure to be around. I saw firsthand her organizational skills, her attention to detail, and her concern about the integrity and quality of our profession."

This year's recipient began her court reporting career in 1977 in Chicago where she was a long-time member of the Illinois Court Reporting Association. She has been extremely active and involved in CCRA ever since she moved to Colorado in 2003. Starting in 2004, she served as a Director, Secretary-Treasurer, Vice President, President, and Past President of CCRA. She went on to serve as a Director of NCRA from 2010 to 2013. And she did all that while running her own business which she started in 1989, Caption First, which provides CART and captioning services around the world.

Now I can start saying Pat rather than she! Pat's certifications include RPR, RMR, CRR, RDR, CCP, and she is an NCRA Fellow. Pat has served on several NCRA committees including as a member of the NCRA CART Task Force for three years, chairing the committee for two of those three years. She was one of the founding members of the Realtime Certification Committee and served on the CART Community of Interest.

Pat has also served on many CCRA committees including Captioning and CART, Nominating, Legislative, Past President, and Seminar Planning. She has also served as a member of the Advisory Committee for Ad Hoc Rules and Regulations for the Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Pat has also sponsored several scholarships at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. In 2000 she was listed in Today's Chicago Woman as one of the 100 Women Making a Difference.

In 2007, Pat lost a significant portion of her sight but continued serving on boards, captioning, and running Caption First. She spoke at several events on her disability and how she learned to cope from the many stories she heard from her deaf clients. Pat is widely published and has spoken at many conferences around the world on bringing spoken communication via CART and captioning to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and to those whose native language is not English.

I would now like to introduce Pat's family and friends who have joined her here today to celebrate this honor with her. Roy, Pat's husband, who is Vice President of Technology and Finance at Caption First; her son Matthew, daughter Malia, and granddaughter Kara. Also here today are Heather Trapp, Rafael Trapp, Tina Jacobson, Billy Jacobson, Ashton Laub, Linda Clack, and John Clack. Thank you for being here. I know it means a lot to Pat.

Please join me in congratulating Patricia Graves as the very well-deserved recipient of the 2022 Distinguished Service Award.