

I place in nomination, my neighbor and friend, Tim Turner, as candidate for the Hayden "Distinguished Veteran of the Year Award". Tim and wife, Vicky, have resided in Strawberry Fields addition of Hayden for 9 years. Tim served on the Hayden Veterans and Park & Rec committees. His published work, "Questions", won the National INDIE Excellence Award for inspiration and 1st Place for Self-Help, from Royal Dragonfly Book Awards. "Questions" is an inspirational manual of daily meditations, focused on hope-building, reflecting on self and the world. He also markets greeting cards using thoughts from his book. Minneapolis artist and writer, Sherri Faye states, "Questions is insightful and thought-provoking, yet whimsical, makes me think, feel and smile. It's truly a book that can help me discover and create direction in my life." I have a copy of "Questions". Inspiring! Tim has a unique gift of using words and phrases, so fresh and original. His biography should also be published, a must-read for all North Dakotans!

In 1963, at age 21, when the Viet Nam conflict was emerging into war, Tim enlisted in the Air Force, beginning a four and a half year career. He received basic training in San Antonio, then was transferred to the base in Lincoln, Nebraska learning communications intelligence while assisting in the Chaplin Corp. Then transferred to Offutt Air Force Base, headquarters of the U.S. Strategic Command, providing intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance for our armed services and around the world. It was there Tim trained as a communications officer, ending his career at the base in Grandforks, N.D. If deployed to Viet Nam, Tim would have been assigned front lines, reporting battle conditions, an undertaking from which few survived. I believe Tim was spared Viet Nam for a future in communications that has blessed, not only him, but also an untold number of people here in the States.

After the Air Force, Tim launched into a life-long journey of television/radio broadcasting, in the front office, consulting, promoting and booking individuals, bands and singing groups throughout the United States. From a meager start in N.D., Tim soon became a promoter of young entertainers needing a venue to try out their talents. Tim encouraged young wannabes to follow their dreams in entertainment in the merging world of Rock & Roll! Often traveling with them in station wagons, beat-up vans and old buses, night after night, the back country, to bars, high school gyms, indoors and out, wherever a stage could be booked. Tim recalls those days with affection, but was bound for bigger "fish to fry" becoming director of communications for well-known TV and radio stations from Georgia to Seattle and along the way, managing networks in Minneapolis and San Diego. In those jobs Tim promoted the music of young performers, some becoming famous: the Commodores, Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross and Al Stewart. Each has recognized Tim with awards for helping launch their careers.

Tim's vocation expanded while in Seattle into the world of sports. Working as an account executive in promotion for both Mariners and Seahawks organizations. Tim conceived an idea for the Seahawks he termed, "The 12th Fan", which became, "The 12 Man", a successful and celebrated logo, distinguishing Seattle's pro team from all others. Tim also founded the Pete Gross House in Seattle, later named The Fred Hutchison Cancer Center.

But what impresses me more than acclaim is Tim's undying desire to encourage young hopefuls. I've walked with him in our local mall. Tim often stops to visit with sales people, especially young vendors sitting at the courtyard booths, hoping to succeed in business. An advocate and supporter, Tim tells his story of meager beginnings, encouraging these youth to never give up, just keep going. It lights up their eyes!

Tim's Air Force experience provided the training and skills for a life filled, not only with accomplishments for himself, but in lifting up young people to achieve the best they can be. In this sense, Tim never retired from service to his country. If you can find a more worthy candidate, then I know he or she will be a great representative for Hayden's prestigious award.

Nominating person, neighbor and friend,

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