

UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA NEWS RELEASE



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For immediate publication for dancer awareness

Lorraine Backus honored by USDA

Retiring Insurance Coordinator, Lorraine Backus and her late husband Howard, were honored by the Delegates at United Square Dancers of America's (USDA) Annual Meeting on June 27, 2007 in Charlotte NC by bestowing the title of **HONORARY MEMBER** on Lorraine and Howard.

Lorraine and Howard were some of the founding members of USDA. They served as Plains Region Vice President (1983-1985); USDA President (1985-1987); and immediately following their service as USDA President they were appointed Insurance Coordinators, a position they held together until Howard's untimely passing in 1995. Lorraine then continued in this position until 2007. This 20 years of consecutive service to USDA in one position is unequalled, and they are very deserving of the title **HONORARY MEMBER**.

On September 1, 2007 a group of 21 people met in North Little Rock, AR to honor Lorraine and present the award to her. Fifteen present and former members of USDA's Executive Committee attended, along with Lorraine's two sons Howard (and Colleen) Backus and Kim (and Pricilla) Backus, and square dance friends Mac and Virginia Riggs. Lorraine's daughter Pam (and Jeb) Hollan were unable to attend.

A **USDA plaque** was presented to Lorraine honoring her service, and a framed copy of the **Resolution of Recognition** was also presented. A **PRAYER SHAWL**, which was blessed by both the USDA Executive Committee and St. Peter Lutheran Church Prayer Shawl Group, was presented to Lorraine also, to let her know our thoughts and prayers go with her.

Anyone who had contact with Lorraine concerning USDA Insurance appreciated her helpfulness, concern and willingness to go out of her way to solve insurance problems and concerns. Many have very fond memories of Lorraine, and she made many friends over the years with the people she worked with. She will be missed by all.

