

Press Release

Date: May 4, 2017
For Release: May 5, 2017

Contact: Joy Gaasch, President
Chamber of Commerce Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Ferrysburg
Phone: 616-42-1772
Email: jgaasch@grandhavenchamber.org

Cindy and Don Anderson Receive Chamber's 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award

Spring Lake, Michigan – Don and Cindy Anderson were honored as this year's co-recipients of the Chamber of Commerce Grand Haven, Spring Lake, Ferrysburg Lifetime Achievement Award. The award was presented at the Chamber's Annual Dinner by longtime friend Ann Tabor. The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes and honors business men and women who strive toward the highest level of professional accomplishments, who excel in their chosen profession and have devoted significant time and energy to improve the community's quality of life.

Before Cindy retired from Grand Haven Area Public Schools as a speech therapist, her commitment to engage her students and her desire to see them succeed led to the district recognizing her by presenting her with their Excellence in Service Award in 1987. Cindy also received AMBUCS National Therapist of the Year Award for a summer school program developed and taught to the special needs kids she taught during the regular school year. After retirement, Cindy continually has been involved in making a difference, not only in our community, but touching untold numbers of individuals throughout the world. Cindy served for many years on the Board of Christ Community Church and of C3. With two good friends, founded Camp Blue Bird and personally directed several fund raisers and served on its Board of Directors. She served on the Grand Haven Area Community Foundations Scholarship Committee and has been a support of TCM and Women in Transition and is currently Chair of the Board of Humanity for Prisoners. She was recognized as Counterpart's Distinguished Woman of the year in 2011 as co-founder of 100 Women who care. In 1986, Cindy and Don began a wonderful journey together of community and philanthropic involvement as well as growing a business.

Don, a graduate of Michigan Technological University with a degree in Civil Engineering, began his career working for the Michigan Department of Transportation. He worked for several engineering firms and in 1986 formed Anlaan Corporation with partner Garret Terlann. The name Anlaan was Cindy's brain child using both partner's names. Don has also served as President of the Michigan Road Builders Association, was inducted into Michigan Tech's Civil and Environmental Engineering Academy and was inducted into the Michigan Construction Hall of Fame in 2017. In addition to his professional commitment to excellence, he brings that same commitment to serving his community. He served on the Grand Haven Community Foundation Board of Directors for six years, one as President and was a driving force in the development of the Little Red House.

Cindy and Don both have a passion to see others succeed and a driving force to do good for humanity. They have supported each other's passion through their philanthropy and rolling up their sleeves and actively participating in fund raising. Both love to travel and have touched many individuals and made a difference in communities internationally. While in Africa, Cindy visited a small Catholic school and through listening and watching, she recognized that she could help. Back in the US, she and Don had desks built and shipped to the school, that was the beginning of many hands helping reaching across continents to change children's lives and create a brighter future.

-End-