

**Sig and Marge Peterson
Given by Alfred Schultz
May 1993**

One of the beautiful spruce trees is now being dedicated to Sig and Marge Peterson, two of the most outstanding people to have received this honor.

Sig and Marge are a shining example of devotion and dedication to the highest ideals and aspirations of outstanding, intelligent, caring people.

As a result of their lifetime dedicated to work for their community, their church, the government of our state and the many organizations that they have participated in, they have won a position of stature, respect, love and admiration that may have been equaled by some, but has been surpassed by none.



Sig and Marge are lifelong residents of Almont, a little town that has made history and is still making history as a result of the work and leadership of Sig and Marge.

Sig and Marge have received recognition from many organizations for outstanding achievements and success. It has been recognition that has been earned.

Sig and Marge have added to the success of many organizations by their contributions of music and programs requiring their great talent and ability.

Sig has been a leader for many years. In his community he has helped young people by starting and conducting music training in school, and by leading Boy Scouts and other youth groups. He has been a leader in his church and has taught Sunday School. He has led many aspects of church work.

He has been a leader in his community where he established a Labor Day program that attracts large crowds to Almont each year, by establishing an annual Lutefisk Dinner that brings over 1,000 people to Almont, by establishing an outstanding museum, by organizing a fire department and by leading other support organizations.

Sig is a rancher. He was an early leader in soil conservation work in promotion tree planting and in organizing livestock improvement facilities.

Sig has been active in Historical Society activities and has written books on the history of Morton County and the historic city of Sims.

Sig has received much help from his beautiful and very talented wife Marge. Marge has a record of outstanding achievements that parallel Sig's record. \

Marge Nelson Peterson has walked hand in hand with Sig in many of his activities. In addition, Marge has been a leader in Red Cross work, music for young people, in county Homemakers work, the Soil Conservation State Auxiliary, teaching Sunday School, as church organist for 35 years, and as author of the Almont Lutheran Church History Book.

Marge used her dramatic skills in writing the pageant for the Almont 75th Anniversary celebration. In addition, Marge has written a number of musical programs and assists in writing the annual Labor Day program.

In between these activities, Marge has been a Girl Scout leader and has assisted with youth education and development programs.

Sig and Marge have received many awards in recognition of their outstanding work and accomplishments. Time does not permit going over the entire list, but I wish to mention just one as an example of the caliber of the recognition received by Sig or Marge or both.

In 1990, Sig was selected as Fraternalist of the year by Sverdrup Lodge. He was elected Fraternalist of the Year at the Fourth District S/N Convention and at the International Convention he was elected first runner up.

Sig and Marge have touched the lives of many people, from young people who have had better opportunities as a result of Sig and Marge's teaching and leadership to the community of Almont, which is a better place to live as a result of their activities, to their church, to the youth at Dakota Boys Ranch, to children who can have parents nearby as a result of the Ronald McDonald House, to the elderly residents of nursing homes in much of western North Dakota who have again experienced joy in their lives as a result of the willingness of these wonderful, talented people to share their lives with as many people as they are able to reach.

Sig and Marge are an outstanding example of the good that can be done and the joy that can be brought to others by people who are motivated by compassion and by an interest in helping others to a better life.

Sig and Marge, we are all very proud of you. You are truly great Norwegians and we are happy to recognize you today.

Sig passed away in June 2007 at the age of 97. Marge is currently living at Elm Crest in New Salem.