

Honors and Awards

General Service | Economic Development | Health Care | Defense & National Security | Veterans | Conservation, Recreation, Historic Preservation | Flood Relief | Honorary Degrees | Military Service

The numerous awards and honors presented to Congressman John Murtha include the following:

General Service Awards

The Good Scout Award, Boy Scouts of America National Capitol Area Council, 2007.

John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award, 2006.

Johnny Popp Labor Achievement Award, 2006.

Award for Distinguished Service in the Field of Public Policy Graduate Center for Social and Public Policy at Duquesne University, 2006.

John Joseph Moakley Public Service Award, 2006.

American Ireland Fund: Chairman's Distinguished Leadership Award, 2006.

Recipient of the Eisenhower Distinguished Citizen Award, 2005.

Jefferson Lincoln Award from the Panetta Institute for exemplary bipartisan leadership, 2001.

Public Service Award from Fayette County Community Action Agency, 2001.

Friends of Education Award from the Greater Johnstown School District, 2001.

Commitment to Justice Award from the American Bar Association, presented for his sponsorship of the McDade-Murtha law that holds government attorneys to the same ethics standards as private lawyers, 2000.

Silver Beaver Award presented by the Penn's Woods Council, the highest award that a local Boy Scouts council can bestow on an adult volunteer, 1998.

Tough Choices Recognition from the Concord Coalition Citizens Council for support of fiscal responsibility in Washington, 1997.

Paul Harris Fellow award of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International for furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world, 1997.

Civic Award from the Johnstown Association of Life Underwriters, 1996.

Outstanding Service to Victims of Sexual Assault award from the Alice Paul House, 1994.

Annual Award of the Citizens for the Arts in Pennsylvania, 1994.

Crime Stoppers Award of the Cambria County Chapter of Crime Stoppers, 1994.

Leaders in Service Award from the Traveler's Aid Society, for leadership in volunteerism, community service and philanthropic work, 1992.

Top Hat Award from the Society of Saint Vincent DePaul for support of community volunteers, 1991.

Goodwill Industries Award from Goodwill Industries of the Conemaugh Valley, 1991.

Legislator of the Year Award from the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers, 1991.

Friend of Housing Award from the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency and the National Council of State Housing Agencies, 1990.

Appreciation Award of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, 1980.

Appreciation Award of the United Mine Workers of America, 1979.

Person of the Year Award from the Greater Johnstown Central Labor Council, 1978.

Appreciation Award of the Pennsylvania State Police, 1978.

Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Medal for Meritorious Service Beyond the Call of the Normal Dictates of Duty, the Commonwealth's highest honor, 1977.

Pennsylvania Meritorious Service Medal, the Commonwealth's second-highest honor, 1976.

Human Rights Distinguished Service Award from the Cause of Human Rights, 1976.

Appreciation Award of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Building and Construction Trades Council, 1976.

National Bicentennial Medal from the American Revolution Bicentennial administration, 1976.

Distinguished Aviation Citizen Award of the Aviation Council of Pennsylvania, 1976.

Honorary Member of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club, 1975.

Friend of the Farm Bureau Award from the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, several years.

Recognition for Support from the National Farmers Union, several years.

In addition, Congressman Murtha has received numerous local and regional awards, especially for his support of job development, health care, scouting, shelters for battered women, and the arts.

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Economic Development Awards

Champion of Technology Award from the Pittsburgh Technology Council, 2002.

Chairman's Award of the Economic Summit, Greater Johnstown/Cambria County Chamber of Commerce, 2002.

Top 100 People of Central Pennsylvania in Pennsylvania Business Central, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002

Eberly Economic Development Award for achievements in Fayette County, 2001.

Annual Award of the Westmoreland Economic Growth Connection, 2001.

Industrial Energy Efficiency Award from the American Iron and Steel Institute, 1997.

Riverperson of the Year Award of the Three Rivers Regatta Board of Directors, for support of river navigation and river restoration, 1994.

Award for Innovation in Coal Conversion from the University of Pittsburgh, 1994.

Government Leader of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, 1993.

Mr. Coal Award from the Washington Coal Club, 1992.

Government Action Award of the Greater Johnstown-Cambria County Chamber of Commerce, 1991.

Man of Steel Award from the Cold Finished Steel Bar Institute, 1989.

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Health Care Awards

Man of the Year from Schepens Eye Research Institute, Boston MA, 2007.

National Breast Cancer Coalition, Annual Congressional Award, 2006.

Annual Award of the Pennsylvania Cancer Alliance, 2004.

Pink Ribbon Award of the Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition, 2003.

Leadership Award of the National Breast Cancer Coalition, several years, including 2002 and 2003.

Brain Injury Association of America, award for ongoing support, 2003.

Funding Hero Award from the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, 2002.

Legislative Recognition Award from the American Ambulance Association, 2002.

Legislative Award from the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Development, 2002.

Leadership Award from Children's Hospice International, 2002.

Arthur F. McNulty Civic Leadership Award from the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, 2001.

"Thanks from the Children" Award from Children's Hospital of Western Pennsylvania for support and commitment to diabetes research, 2000.

Legislator of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Rural Health Conference, 1999.

Award of Appreciation from Neurofibromatosis, Inc., 1997.

Leadership Award of the National Marrow Doner Program, 1992.

Silvio Conte Award from the National Head Injury Foundation, 1992.

Award of Appreciation from Children's Hospital of Western Pennsylvania, for funding of the Rangos Research Center, 1990.

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Defense and National Security Awards

Marshall Legacy Institute's Public Policy Award, 2008.

Herbert H. Bateman Award from the American Shipbuilding Association, 2008.

Friend of National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) Award, Champions for Children - Military Impacted Schools Association, 2007.

The Edmund S. Muskie Distinguished Public Service Award, 2006.

The Deputy Sheriffs' Association of Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Award, 2006.

General O.P. Smith Award from the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, 2004.

Semper Fidelis Award of the Marine Corps Foundation, presented to former Marines who exemplify the traditions and values of the Marine Corps, 2002.

David Glick Award of the World Affairs Council, for distinguished contributions to the understanding of world affairs, 2001.

Outstanding Legislator Award of the Association of the United States Army, 2001.

Friend of Defense Science Award from the Association of American Universities, 2000.

Robert A. Thompson Award of the Navy League, for an outstanding citizen who is effectively mindful of the importance of sea power to the national defense, 2000.

Legion of Honor Gold Medallion of the Chapel of the Four Chaplains, for service to all people regardless of race or faith, symbolizing the unity of nations, 2000.

Harry S. Truman Award of the National Guard Association of the United States, for advocating the National Guard's role

in national defense, 1993.

Defense Industry Award of the American Defense Preparedness Association, 1993.

Spirit of Hope Award of the United Service Organization (USO), named for Bob Hope and presented for dedication to military-service personnel, 2000. Murtha also received the USO's Service Award for support of troops and families during Operation Desert Storm, 1992.

Minuteman of the Year Award of the Reserve Officers Association, 1992.

CAP Leadership Award of the Civil Air Patrol, 1992.

Semper Fidelis Award of the Marine Corps Command and Staff College Foundation, presented to former Marines who exemplify the traditions and values of the Marine Corps, 1991.

Patriot Award of the Pennsylvania American Legion, for his patriotism, 1991.

Grace Murray Hopper Award of the National Security Industrial Association for his support of computer software initiatives, 1991.

99th Army Reserve Command Award of the Army Reserve Association of Pennsylvania, 1991.

Distinguished Service Medal of the United States Marine Corps, upon his retirement from the Marine Corps Reserves for 37 years of distinguished service to his country, 1990.

Distinguished American Award from the Air Force Association, 1989.

Iron Mike Award, the highest honor of the Marine Corps League, for his support of the Marine Corps and national defense, 1988.

Public Service Award of the National Security Industry Association, 1988.

Distinguished Service Award of the Marine Corps League, 1987.

National Security Leadership Award of the American Security Council, 1987.

Henry M. Jackson Distinguished Service Award, for his support of a strong national defense.

Leadership Award of the Coalition for Peace Through Strength.

Eagle Award of the National Guard Bureau.

Lt. Col. B.D. "Buzz" Wagner Meritorious Service Award of the B.D. "Buzz" Wagner Chapter of the Air Force Association.

Nathan Hale Award and the Appalachian Patriot Award from Pennsylvania military reserve organizations.

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Veterans Awards

Catholic War Veterans HONOR ET VERITAS Award from the National Department, 2003.

American Legion National Distinguished Public Service Award, 2003.

Man of the Year Award of the Catholic War Veterans of America, 2003.

Man of the Year Award of the Catholic War Veterans of Pennsylvania, 2001.

Appreciation Award of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 2000.

George "Buck" Gillispie Congressional Award for Meritorious Service from the Blinded American Veterans Foundation, 1997.

Outstanding Veteran Award of the American Academy of Physicians Assistants, 1989.

James E. VanZandt Legislative Award of the Department of Pennsylvania Veterans of Foreign Wars, 1985.

Plaque for Outstanding Service from the Disabled American Veterans, 1978.

Outstanding Service to the Community Award from the American Legion Department of Pennsylvania, 1978.

For Services to Veterans recognition from the Somerset County Council, Veterans of Foreign Wars, 1977.

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Conservation, Recreation & Historic Preservation Awards

The Outstanding Service Award presented by Stoneycreek-Conemaugh River Improvement Project and Westsylvania Heritage Corporation, 2006.

Friends of the National Parks Award, 2005.

History Makers Award of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, 2003.

Conservation Is Progress Award of Southern Alleghenies Conservancy, 2003.

Lifetime Achievement Award of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, 2002.

Otto Haas Historic Preservation Award of the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, 1994.

Riverperson of the Year Award of the Three Rivers Regatta Board of Directors, for support of river navigation and river restoration, 1994.

Government Leadership Award of the Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society Award, 1993.

The John "Bear Man" Kmetz Award for Environmental Excellence from the Committee to Preserve Rager Mountain, 1992.

Director's Leadership Award from the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, for support of mine-reclamation initiatives, 1983.

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Relief Efforts After the 1977 Johnstown Flood

Governor's Unit Citation from the Adjutant General of Pennsylvania, 1979.

Plaque for Compassion and Dedication Service from the Salvation Army, 1978.

Distinguished Service recognition from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, 1977.

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Honorary Degrees

Waynesburg College, Waynesburg, PA, Doctor of Humane Letters 2006.

Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, Pa., Doctor of Laws, 2002.

University of Scranton, Scranton, Pa., Doctor of Laws, 2002.

Seton Hill College, Greensburg, Pa., Doctor of Laws, 2000.

Suffolk University, Suffolk, Mass., Doctor of Laws, 1998.

Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, Pa., Doctor of Laws, 1996.

U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pa., diploma, 1995.

Saint Francis College, Loretto, Pa., Doctor of Laws, 1993.

Northeastern University, Boston, Mass., Doctor of Political Science, 1991.

Mount Aloysius College, Cresson, Pa., Doctor of Humanities, 1978.

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Military Service Awards

Distinguished Service Medal of the United States Marine Corps, upon his retirement from the Marine Corps Reserves for 37 years of distinguished service to his country, 1990.

Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Medal, PA's highest honor, 1977.

Pennsylvania Meritorious Service Medal, PA's second-highest honor, 1976.

Bronze Star with Combat V, 1966.

Purple Heart, 1966.

Purple Heart, second award, 1966.

Vietnamese Cross of Galantry, 1966.

American Spirit Honor Medal of the Marine Corps Recruit Department, 1952.

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