

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

Iowa Taxpayers Association (ITA)

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John M. Lewis to Receive the 2011 Iowa Taxpayers Association's Weindruch Award



John M. Lewis

The **Iowa Taxpayers Association (ITA)**, the state's leading nonpartisan business tax policy resource since 1935 in conjunction with the family of Linda S. Weindruch are happy to announce that John M. Lewis, former President of the Iowa Utilities Association, and longtime Iowa Taxpayers Association board member, has been chosen as the recipient of the 2011 Linda S. Weindruch Award. This prestigious award will be presented to Lewis at the Iowa Taxpayers Association Annual Meeting Luncheon on December 6, 2011 at the West Des Moines Sheraton.

The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding accomplishments and contributions in promoting and protecting the principles and policies of fair business taxation. The Iowa Taxpayers Association offers this award in memory and in recognition of Linda S. Weindruch who passed away after a long battle with multiple sclerosis in October 2004.

Linda was an active, long-time member of the Iowa Taxpayers Association. She was elected to serve on its Board of Directors in 1994, serving ten active years. She was a tremendous friend of Iowa business and worked diligently to develop and shape legislative and regulatory policy that supported sound taxation principles.

As the founding President of the Iowa Utilities Association in 1971, John Lewis did the things needed with any start-up venture, including renting the space, hiring staff, and buying the equipment, not to mention building the organization's position in the community. He served as President of IUA for over 24 years, retiring from that position at the end of 1995.

In his Iowa Taxpayers Association board participation that spanned nearly 35 years, Lewis served on the Association's Executive Committee for 22 years, and Chaired the Resolutions Committee for over 25 years. John is remembered by his colleagues as a great listener. He was known to take in all sides of an issue, and make people feel like they were heard, before settling on a position.

Lewis served as President of the Iowa Society of Association Executives and as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Society of Association Executives, including being vice-chair for one year. He was a member of the first board of directors of the Iowa Sister States Committee, the umbrella organization for the various "sister state" relationships between Iowa and other entities throughout the world. Also, he served as a Co-Chair of the Governor's Alliance for Science, as well as the boards of Youth Homes of Iowa and the Iowa 4-H Foundation.

Upon his retirement from the Iowa Utility Association, Lewis formed his own company, Public Affairs Resources, through which he provided management and public affairs services to several clients, some on a for-profit basis and others without fees.

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