The Walter F. Snyder Award for 1986

Presented to

ALBERT H. BRUNWASSER

Albert H. (Al) Brunwasser is recognized by his colleagues and peers for his unique perception, and his ability to accomplish "the nearly impossible" — qualities shared by few, but remembered well about the late Walter F. Snyder.

Al Brunwasser began his career in food technology with a Bachelor of Science degree, earned at Michigan State University. He was awarded a Master of Public Health degree by The University of Michigan, a Master of Business Administration from the University of Pittsburgh, and added graduate courses in Public Administration and Urban Renewal, also at Pittsburgh. For the past twenty years, he has held positions with the Allegheny County (Pennsylvania) Health Department, serving currently as Deputy Director for Environmental Health Services.

Al is known and respected for his strong, creative leadership and innovative programming. His credits include programs for local regulations of public drinking water supplies, solid and hazardous wastes disposal, home accident and injury prevention, housing assistance, and lead poisoning prevention in children.

In addition to his management skills and agency responsibilities, Al has retained his ties with academia. He holds the title, Adjunct Professor at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, and enjoys teaching courses in the environmental health sciences.

Al Brunwasser is a "doer" not a "joiner." It is interesting, therefore, to note that he is a Fellow or member of twelve professional organizations and advisory committees, including the National Sanitation Foundation's Joint Committee on Plastics, and the National Environmental Health Association's Environmental Health Management Committee, which he also chairs. He is a commissioned officer in the US Public Health Service. His significant list of awards recognizes both professional and civic achievements. Included are a Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. Award, for his pioneering efforts to help low income families maintain their homes; the Dr. Martin Luther King Citizens Award, for community service by implementing effective measures for rodent/vector control; the Urban Reinvestment Task Force Award, for serving as a member of the Board of Neighborhood Housing Services of Pittsburgh, now a recognized national model; and the Kluth Award, for outstanding achievement in community health.

The professional environmentalist is frequently needed for emergencies. Al Brunwasser is exemplary at times like these — often paying a high personal price for helping those in need. He has responded to problems associated with flooding, sabotage of a public water supply, and to water-borne disease epidemics. His expertise and effective liaison with the public and the press helped to avoid the scares and panics which could have occurred and made these situations much more difficult to correct.

Al is a dedicated, accomplished professional, a caring person. He is a teacher, leader, achiever, and friend. His nomination to receive the Walter F. Snyder Award for Achievement in Environmental Quality cites his contributions — "involvement, leadership, management, knowledge, vision, courage, and action." He has truly earned the selection by a committee of his peers as 1986 recipient of this prestigious award.

Past Recipients of the Walter F. Snyder Award

Callis F. Atkins
Ralph C. Pickard
William A. Broadway, Jr.
James E. Jump
Charles L. Senn
Charles C. Johnaas, Jr.
Larry J. Gordon

Roy B. Watts
John G. Todd
Charles H. Gillham
Emil T. Chanlett
John R. Bagby, Jr.
William Anderson
William G. Walter