



Huntington's Disease Society of America

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Local Man Receives National Recognition

Gary Nash Awarded "Huntington's Disease (HD) Person of the Year" from the Huntington's Disease Society of America (HDSA)

COLUMBUS, OH (August 1st) – Soren Kierkegaard was once quoted as saying the "Hope is passion for what is possible". Perhaps the Danish philosopher was inspired by the actions of people like Gary Nash, who was recently named "HD Person of the Year" by the HDSA on June 11th, 2006. Gary was presented the award at the Society's annual convention, which took place in Milwaukee, WI.

Nash was named HD Person of the Year because of the passion he demonstrates in working towards finding a cure for Huntington's Disease, a neurological disorder for which there is no treatment or cure. When presenting the award, Charles Dimmler III, Chairman of the Board for the HDSA stated, "The HDSA Person of the Year is our opportunity to recognize an individual in our HD community who has inspired each of us to be more than we are; to believe that HD need not stop us from being all that we can be as human beings." Dimmler went on to add, "As one friend of Gary noted in her nomination, 'I see a man who had to give up a career he loved; Gary sees it as an opportunity to spend more time with his family. I see a man who attends all of his grandchildren's sporting events as everyone stares at him and wonders what is wrong; he sees nothing but his grandson scoring a goal.'"

Nash has had a history of inspiring people throughout his life. He is a MAI and a broker who owned his own business (NashWilson and Associates) until he was no longer able to work. He taught and/or wrote Appraisal Institute courses all over the country and Costa Rica for more than 30 years, including at OSU. Due to his career endeavors, Nash has scholarships in his name at OSU and Columbus State. He was also awarded the first Lifetime Achievement Award by the Appraisal Institute.

Perhaps in the eyes of Nash and his family however, his greatest endeavor has been his crusade against Huntington's Disease. Fighting HD is a passion of Gary's not only because of his personal battle, but also because of the genetic implications that it has for his children and grandchildren who all share a 50% risk factor.

Nash has been involved with the Central Ohio Chapter of the HDSA since 1994 in many roles including committee memberships for sponsorship development and nominating. However, beyond "positions" on the board, Nash's daughter, Sheri Nash, who is the President of the board, states "Gary sets an example, gives us hope and fights for those effected by HD. He is not afraid to ask community leaders for help or to simply ask them to listen as he tells them his life story and the story of the eight people in his family that

have suffered before him. He has a voice that is heard. He has a story to tell and people will listen. He is a shining example of passion. His passion and his voice have made a difference.”

In order to celebrate Gary’s award and achievement, the Central Ohio Chapter of the HDSA will be hosting a public reception at San Francisco Oven on 65 E. State Street in Columbus, OH. The reception will be on Wed., August 16th from 6pm to 9pm. Event details can be found on www.centralohiohdsa.org.

The Huntington’s Disease Society of America is a national non-profit health agency dedicated to finding a cure for Huntington’s Disease (HD) while providing vital support, information and educational services to improve the lives of those affected with HD. Through a national network of volunteer-based chapters and affiliates, the organization provides resources and guidance for families of those suffering from the disease. For additional information, please visit www.hdsa.org.

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