

Jean Lakin – IPHA President 1990

It is very difficult, if not down right impossible, to recall many specifics related to my IPHA Presidency from 1990-1991. That said, however, my mind's eye will never forget the pride and immense pleasure in serving as one of your IPHA Presidents and interacting with public health professionals across the state.



Without a doubt my most memorable experience was being appointed to the Healthy Iowans 2000 Task force by Governor Branstad in January, 1991, representing IPHA, and then having the unique experience of working directly with Dick Remington.

His leadership as Chair of the 2000 Task Force was exemplary, and the Task Force directly benefitted from his vast experience and breadth of knowledge of public health. Dick was always “Mr. Public Health” to me, and I told him that on many an occasion when he and Betty became friends of mine in Iowa City soon after his arrival at the University of Iowa.

Subsequently, when IPHA honored me by bestowing the Richard Remington award in 1993 and also in 1999 for my work with the Johnson county Community Health needs Assessment/Health Improvement Plan, it was one of the highlights of my long public health career. Those plaques currently hang over my desk in my office in my Iowa City condo. They will also have a prominent place in my new office when I move to Lakeland, Tennessee later this spring in order to be closer to my son and his family.