

# Pioneer Award

**RICHARD "DICK" DELPIZZO  
2015**



Dick was born and raised in Louisville to a family that carried on many Italian cultural traditions at its Main Street home. He attended Louisville schools and played trumpet in the Louisville High School Band, and wrestled on Louisville's first ever wrestling team. He remembers that at the first wrestling practice the coach, who didn't know anything about wrestling, had the boys pair off on the wrestling mat while he stood in the middle with a book and instructed them on the methods to accomplish the moves.

Dick went to work for the Rocky Flats Nuclear Plant in 1962 and worked in engineering and construction until he retired in 1994. He always had an interest in building, construction and woodworking. Besides building two houses, he also enjoyed building furniture and cabinets. However, his greatest accomplishment in his eyes was designing and building the Replica of Downtown Louisville, which now resides at the Louisville Historical Museum. He felt so strongly about the historic preservation of Louisville that he constructed a model of what the town looked like in the early 1900s, which took him countless hours of patience and dedication to accomplish.

Dick's other achievements include serving as President of the Italian Club in Louisville, Cubmaster for the Cub Scouts, and a Little League baseball coach.