

Josephine Bernot Voinovich Humanitarian



Josephine Herman Voinovich was graduated from Collinwood High School in 1928, the first class to graduate from the then new Collinwood High School that opened in 1926, with grades 7 through 10.

Josephine Bernot continued her education at Flora Stone Mather College of Western Reserve University where she received her bachelors degree in 1932. She married George S. Voinovich and the couple had six children, George, Michael, Paul, Victor, Joanne (Indre), and Marianne (Schmitz). George, Michael, and Paul are CHS alumni.

She expressed her love and concern for youth and community as a Den Mother for her children's scouting troops, then became a trainer of Scout Leaders, eventually Day Camp Director. From 1971-1975 she was President of Lake Erie Girl Scout Council who recognized her dedicated years with the "Thanks" award for her service.

Mrs. Voinovich extended her community service to the United Way and The Cleveland Women's Club. As secretary of the organizations she was honored with the "Margaret Ireland" Award given in recognition of her social consciousness, civil achievement, and community service. Her contribution to United Way included time spent on the Allocations Committee. At the same time, Josephine was an active promoter of Mather College of Case Western Reserve.

The Cleveland Catholic Diocese acknowledged her 12 year stint as a full time volunteer Head Librarian at St. Agatha-St. Aloysius with the "Excellence Award" given only to outstanding educators and volunteers. Mrs. Voinovich, by her own admission, found this contribution to students to be her most fulfilling. She received the "Outstanding Citizens" Award from the National Services Center, and was inducted into the Senior Citizens Hall Of Fame as a member of a select seniors with outstanding contributions of service in Ohio.

In spite of these many honors, she always felt her greatest accomplishments were her children and their "successful life achievements".