

Excerpt from Mr. Frank McKee's Hall of Fame Awards Speech

... Alan Bell, as we have all heard today, was extraordinary. All you needed to do was look around the auditorium and see the number of family, friends, and most importantly classmates who came today to honor him. Yes, Alan was smart—probably smarter than anyone I have ever known. But Alan Bell's greatest gift was Alan Bell, himself. His passion for life, for people, for his community is even more important than his academic excellence. Whenever I look at the picture of Alan and President Clinton, and it's been in both of my offices, I don't think to myself, "there's Alan meeting Bill Clinton," instead, I think, "There's Bill Clinton meeting Alan." Although I've never met Bill Clinton, I can't help but think that he's somehow better for having met Alan. I know that I am. Alan was an inspiration to all of us who knew him, but what is most amazing to me is the extent to which Alan continues to inspire. The day of Alan's funeral, I had two separate conversations with classmates of his. The conversations went roughly the same. Both people told me that Alan caused them to re-examine their lives. You see, Alan inspired them to look at their lives and their commitment to others. Both said that, like Alan, they wished to give back, to make a contribution to this community and to the

young people of Lower Moreland. Alan Bell's legacy, to paraphrase Jack Nicholson's character, is to make us want to be better persons. Lower Moreland is proud to call Alan Bell its own...

...Alan's zest for life caused him to pull out all of the stops and taught those of us lucky enough to know him the true qualities of a life well lived. All of our inductees understand the importance of putting themselves and their beliefs on the line... In closing, I turn to a master writer to translate greatness and success into poetry. Ralph Waldo Emerson captures what we are celebrating tonight in his short poem, "What is Success?"

To laugh often and much;

To win the respect of intelligent people
and the affection of children;

To earn the appreciation of honest critics
and endure the betrayal of false friends;

To appreciate beauty;

To find the best in others;

To leave the world a bit better, whether by
a healthy child, a garden patch
or a redeemed social condition;

To know even one life has breathed
easier because you have lived;

This is to have succeeded.

Ladies and gentlemen, join me in applauding Brad Herman, Alan
Bell, David Diebert, Todd Lieberman, and Valerie Plame Wilson, our
2008 Hall of Fame Inductees.