

Julie Ann Hudson O'Connell '52 Highlander Award



Julie Ann Hudson O'Connell '52 is an amazing example of dedication to HPISD as an alumna, parent and grandparent. As a parent and grandparent, she donated countless hours as a volunteer at Armstrong, Hyer, McCulloch, HPMS and HPHS. Julie Ann grew up in the Park Cities and graduated from HPHS in 1952. She married fellow alumnus Ray O'Connell in 1956, and the story goes that he proposed to her on the first date! She has served as president of the PTA at Armstrong and on the PTA boards at several of the other schools. She continued her service long after her five daughters graduated from HPHS. She continues to volunteer in the schools as a Living History speaker, library volunteer, and has served over 1,000 days as a volunteer in the school cafeterias. Some of her current activities include serving on the Advisory Board of the Highland Park High School Alumni Association, the Steering Committee of the HPISD Centennial Celebration, and as a Mad for Plaid Grandparent Committee member. Julie Ann continues to be very involved in the community; she has participated in every 4th of July parade for the past 36 years, and she and her family have not missed a State Fair of Texas since her grandfather first began attending in 1885. She is an active member of Highland Park Presbyterian Church where she has been a Deacon, Sunday school teacher, weekly greeter, Fall Fun Fest organizer and on the leadership committee of the College Ministry. She was named Mother of the Year by Park Cities People in 1986. We are thrilled to honor her years of service to the schools and to the community by presenting Julie Ann Hudson O'Connell the 2012 Highlander Award.