

Crocker was larger than life

There exists a common metaphor that applies to an individual whose life and works far exceed the everyday and ordinary, standing out among others in a community of men – and this metaphor certainly applies here today: Jim Crocker was larger than life.

Jim was a friend of mine, and I trusted him. He was proud, tough, at times exasperating, and ever a man who placed our community and its well being first and foremost, and that was good enough for me.

For the 20 years I've lived in this town, I don't recall a public event, meeting, town issue or crisis that somewhere, out in front and leading our community, was Mr. Crocker. Looking back now as I write, I've come to realize, maybe for the first time, how much I, and all of us, depended on him.

Very few of those who volunteer to serve our community held the raw intelligence, work ethic and overall scope of public sector knowledge that Jim Crocker possessed in spades. It was these qualities that he used to all our benefit and his passing leaves an immense hole that few can ever hope to fill.

On behalf of the directors of the Osterville Village Association, its membership and our Barnstable community at large, I wish to express our sincere and deepest sympathies to Jim's wife, Gail, his two daughters and the entire Crocker family. Our village and the Town of Barnstable have lost its most effective and indefatigable advocate, and we wish him well on the way to his just reward.

John Crow, President

Osterville Village Association