

REMEMBERING SHARON M. RISSINGER

By Gene Preston, President

The passing of Board of Director member Sharon M. Rissinger 58, member #781 has touched many in IHC Chapter 35 of NYS. She has always been very active in holding office as secretary, director, and on committees. For years she chaired the Christmas Party and blessed us with her humor. She helped at putting together the newsletter, *Farmall Flyer*, assuring its success.

Sharon was eager to step up and run for office back in the fall of 2017 when Director George Brown resigned from the board. She has been on the BOD since then and always participated by adding items to our meeting agendas and enjoyed being a director until poor health slowed her down a couple years ago. Even then she'd send us her director concerns for the betterment of the chapter. Having her husband Dale on the board and also serving as president two different times enabled her to have a good grasp on the chapter's progress and growth. She was not one to procrastinate. When making difficult meeting decisions lingered on, Director Sharon would say, "Come on, let's get it done."

Early on in her illness, Patty and I stopped to visit her and although limited in mobility, she still showed excitement whenever chapter things entered the conversation. The last time we saw Sharon at a meeting was February 12, 2023 at our Annual Farm Toy Show at the clubhouse. She was struggling, but forced herself to participate, wanting to take part. That was Sharon, a trooper to the end.

I have ordered a name plate to add Sharon's name to our Memorial Plaque at the clubhouse. Being a director, her name will include an asterisk * indicating holding an office, in her case a director. She will be missed, and we rally around Dale as his life takes on a big change without Sharon.

We look forward to *A Celebration of Life* for her, February 10, 2024, 1:00 PM, at BW's Restaurant & Banquet Facility in Pavilion, NY. We are grateful and thankful to Sharon for all she has done as a friend and for the chapter. May her spirit soar as she rests in the peace of heaven and its everlasting joy.

