

### **Ford W. Hughes-2009**

Ford Hughes served the parks and recreation profession at the local, state and national levels. He initiated and developed Maramec Spring Park, a major Missouri Tourist site containing forests, a nature center, a wildlife refuge, trout fishing, camping, and a historical museum. Thanks to his efforts, this area is a Registered Natural Landmark protecting Maramec Spring's unique wildlife and water quality. Ford also developed St. James Park, with facilities including the James Memorial Library. At the state level Ford served as President of the Missouri Park and Recreation Association (MPRA), and was a co-founder of the MPRA Scholarship Trust Fund, creating the MPRA Scholarship Charitable Trust. He initiated and secured funding for the Missouri Symposiums for Park and Recreation Administration. As a member of the Board of the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM), he created the CFM Parks Resource Committee, and served as Chair and Vice Chair of the CFM Charitable Trust. Investing in the profession's future, Hughes served as member and chair of the Advisory Council of the University of Missouri, Columbia's School of Natural Resources. Ford served the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) in several capacities, including Regent and Instructor for the Revenue Sources Management School (Wheeling, West Virginia), NRPA Great Lakes Regional Council, the NRPA Board of Trustees and was a founding and charter member of the American Academy for Parks and Recreation Administration. Among his many awards and honors are the American Park and Recreation Society Professional Meritorious Award, MPRA Fellow Award, MPRA Municipal Section Distinguished Service Award, Missouri Conservation Federation Conservationist of the Year, the Cornelius Amory Pugsley State Medal by the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, Missouri Boys and Girls Town Distinguished Service Award, and St. James, Missouri, Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Service and Lifetime Achievement Award. Mr. Hughes passed away in 1999.