

2015 Humanitarian Award: Warren Hebert

During the 2015 Chapter meeting, Rick Gardner ('75) presented the Franciscan Alumni Association Humanitarian Award to Dr. Warren Hebert in recognition of his long-term commitment, influence, and devotion in the fields of nursing, home care, and ministry.

Warren Hebert attended St. Francis High School Seminary with the class of 1975 as a freshman and sophomore from August of 1971 through June of 1973. He played for the Saints' baseball, basketball, and soccer teams, enjoyed intramurals with Fr. Berard Doerger, and an occasional game of tennis with Fr. Dean Pellman. Camping in the woods is a favorite memory, in part due to Fr. Murray Bodo's inspiring lectures on Thoreau's Walden. Warren tried out for Fr. Aubert's Glee Club, but didn't make the cut because his voice was changing. Undaunted, Warren became the lead vocalist for the seminary's rock band in 1972 and won first place in the Picnic Day talent contest. He also participated in a speech competition. Religion class with Fr. Savio Russo continues to bear fruit through periodic encounters with authors like Dag Hammarskjold, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, and others.

After high school, Warren attended X-Ray Tech and Nursing School at Charity Hospital in New Orleans. Warren is an RN, a Certified Association Executive, and in May 2015, at age 58, completed his Doctorate in Nursing Practice, where he received Loyola New

Orleans' Ignatian Award as the university's outstanding graduate student. Warren was also named honor scholar of his Doctoral nursing cohort, in part for his two-year study of health professionals' competencies in engaging family caregivers.

Warren has worked as a home health nurse for over 30 years, 17 of which have been as CEO of the HomeCare Association of Louisiana (HCLA), representing 11,000 homecare professionals. Warren has spoken around the country about disaster preparedness, healthcare, the future of nursing, and recently about leading healthcare workers to Tibetan Buddhist communities in India.



Warren has served on numerous state and national boards & commissions and is currently Secretary of the board of Commu-

nity Health Accreditation Partners in Washington, DC. He also serves as a director for the board of Louisiana's Advocacy Center, which oversees state and federal services & grants for Louisiana's impoverished elderly and people with exceptionalities.

For nearly seven years Warren served as host of Radio Maria's "A Caring Place," guiding and supporting family caregivers. The program was broadcast in seven states and on the web.

Warren is a founding member of Men Entering Sacred Space, an ecumenical group of 14 men who head to the woods one weekend every three months in an effort to deepen their spiritual roles in family and ministry. The group is affiliated with Illuman, an organization based on Fr. Richard Rohr's work in men's spirituality.

Warren's wife Ramona has been a music minister, is an accomplished liturgical vocalist, and has taught science, math, music, and theology in Catholic Schools for over 30 years. Warren & Ramona have 5 grown children and 9 grandchildren.

Dr. Warren Hebert's accomplishments and contributions in the fields of medicine and ministry reflect great credit on himself and the training he has received over the years, including the Franciscan formation program.