

Remembering Jerry Higgins

by George Frost

Jerry Higgins was the greatest pro-life warrior I personally ever knew. I will be forever grateful to him for encouraging me to attend the Right-to-Life March on the



20th anniversary of Roe v Wade in 1993 and bringing me into an activist role in the pro-life movement. In addition to chairing the Long Island Coalition for Life, Jerry witnessed early every Saturday morning without fail at a local abortion mill. His strength and determination would renew mine on those cold, dark, wintry mornings when I was tempted to ignore the six-thirty alarm.

One Saturday morning after a major snowstorm, I arrived at the site of the abortion mill, and there on top of a four-foot snow bank was Jerry holding his pro-life sign. He was well-prepared to stay for the duration outfitted with heavy gloves and a scarf to protect his face from the ten-degree wind chill.

Not only was Jerry a man of great determination, his superb organizational skills made the L.I.C.L. run very efficiently, which maximized the use of our limited

resources in saving the unborn. Once when I was in charge of the Saturday witness because he was in Albany for a N.Y State Right-to-Life meeting, I returned only nine of ten pro-life signs. As soon as he returned home, he called wanting to know where the tenth sign was. He was meticulous in making sure each person knew their job and did what they said they would do and that included himself.

The day before Jerry's last hospitalization, he asked me to come to his house. When I arrived, there was Jerry standing in the middle of his study, his body weak from cancer, his lungs filled with pneumonia making it difficult to breathe, getting L.I.C.L. files and other materials ready for a seamless transfer of authority and information. Let us all in the pro-life movement carry on with Jerry's courage and determination. He was, to put it quite simply, the heart and soul of the L.I.C.L.

May he rest in peace!
March 28, 1942 - August 14, 2011