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Sunday, May 1, 2005

OTPA's 11th Annual Preservation Awards

"Antique Orange" was the theme of this first time ever, sold-out dinner held at Citrus City Grille. Special honorees included nine individuals that had lived in Orange the longest. They are: Clarence "Mike" Eltiste, Art Pagee, David Hart, Jean Hart-Fairbairn, Mary Widdows, Lydia Walker-Schroeder and Elsie Eckhoff Porter. Hilda Eisenbraun was honored as the eldest Orange Union High School graduate still living in Orange, and Victor Wells as the eldest native still living in Orange.

Three businesses were also honored: Shannon-Bryan Mortuary and Gene & Joan Smith (Tita Smith's parents!) for the longest running businesses, plus, Watson's as the oldest business in Orange.

Award winners that night were:

Good Neighbor Award

Joe & Michelle Cruz, 440 N. Shaffer
-and also-

Shaun & Janelle Hall, 357 N. Shaffer

Sweet Sweet Orange

Tom & Mary Matuzak, 340 S. Grand

Pitcher Park Award

Mike & Ann Thomas

Plaza City Award

Plaza Post Office, 310 W. Chapman

OTPA Special Merit

Tita Smith

Spirit of Old Towne

Orange Barrio Historical Society

Dale Rahn Volunteer

of the Year Award

Jeff Frankel