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Ray of Hope

University of Dayton

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Ray of Hope

Bro. Ray Fitz, S.M., past president of the University of Dayton, will be honored by the Ohio Valley Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society with its Silver Hope Award.

The award recognizes Fitz, who was diagnosed with MS in 1989, for his contributions to society.

“I'm very thankful for the information, services and support provided by the MS Society,” said Fitz, who stepped down as president in 2002 after 23 years and now serves as the University's Fr. Ferree Professor of Social Justice in the Fitz Center for Leadership.

“Like with any illness, there's always a journey and I'm very thankful to the people who have supported me through my journey,” he said. “I felt that because I had to struggle with MS that made me more aware of my limits as a human and I put the journey in the hands of God.”

Fitz will receive the award Sept. 29 at the chapter's Dinner of Champions. The group will also recognize Connie Veach, who has co-chaired the WalkMS event for more than five years.

“This event is a great opportunity to recognize the advocacy, volunteer work and fundraising of Brother Ray, Connie and members of the society who have contributed throughout the past year and beyond,” said Eddie Rauen, president of the MS Ohio Valley Chapter. “Without these efforts, we aren't able to fully achieve our vision of a world free of MS and provide the services and research necessary to support the more than 6,000 in the Ohio Valley affected by MS.”

MS, a disease of the central nervous system, is thought to affect more than 2.3 million people worldwide, according to the MS Society.

The society's mission is to help people affected by funding research, advocating for change and providing programs and services.
More information on the Ohio Valley Chapter is available at http://www.nationalmssociety.org/Chapters/OHG.

For more information, contact Meagan Pant, assistant director of media relations, at 937-229-3256 or mpant1@udayton.edu.

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