

OTTAWA HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME

2015



JULIE (DIERSTEIN) JASTROW, Ph.D. Class of 1969



Dr. Jastrow graduated from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana in 1973 with a bachelor of science degree in agricultural science receiving Bronze Tablet Highest Honors, Mortar Board, and Phi Kappa Phi recognition. Dr. Jastrow also continued her excellence as a performing musician, following her 1969 receipt of the OTHS Performing Arts Award, among other honors, as a member of the University of Illinois Symphonic Band performing as principal bassoonist from 1970-1975 and serving as Vice President from 1972-1973. In addition she performed at the University of Illinois as a member of the Marching Illini, the Symphony Orchestra, and the Wind Ensemble. In 1973 she received the Albert Austin Harding Band Award. In 1979, she received a master's of science degree from the University of Illinois in agronomy, followed by a Ph.D. in 1994 in biological sciences. In 1975 she began a career with Argonne National Laboratory where she is now a Senior Terrestrial Ecologist, also serving as an adjunct faculty member in the geology department of Northern Illinois University. In 2014 Dr. Jastrow received the Argonne National Laboratory Distinguished Performance Award, the highest honor offered by Argonne National Laboratory / University of Chicago for scientific research. Acknowledged as co-author or lead author for numerous papers published in professional scientific journals, she has been invited to appear as a guest speaker and collaborator at numerous universities and professional conferences, both nationally and internationally, including Europe, Australia, and China. Dr. Jastrow is today recognized as one of the leading active soil research scientists in the United States.