

The Patricia Rummer Memorial Award

Patricia Rummer was a badass!

In the courtroom, she was a fearless champion for those less able to stand up for themselves. In the practice pool, she was a determined athlete, always finishing the set, no matter how hard or how long. In the competition pool, she was unintimidated by the likes of the 200 butterfly. If swimming an event -- any event -- earned points for her Naperville Waves team, she fixed her goggles, climbed up on the block and dove in.

In the locker room, Patricia had a warm greeting and a genuine caring for her teammates. She challenged those around her to step up their game and swim in a meet. "Is it life threatening?" she would ask when told of their fears about competing. Those simple words empowered other swimmers to follow her lead, put aside their misgivings, and go for it. The smiles on the dripping wet faces of every swimmer who never thought they could finish that 500 free or that 200 breaststroke are Patricia's gifts to our team.

When Patricia was diagnosed with a disease that was, indeed, life threatening, she did what she always did. She persevered, indomitable, working hard for her clients, swimming hard for her team and being a role model for all those who knew her. Every day she inspired, impressed and encouraged, and every day she will be missed.

The Patricia Rummer Memorial Award will be bestowed annually on the Naperville Waves team member who exemplifies Patricia's spirit. Determination, courage, kindness and a genuine love of team and swimming are the criteria for this honor. They are Patricia's legacy, and thanks to the generosity of Patricia's beloved family, they will be recognized and celebrated for years to come.

2015: Maureen Nolan
2015: Sheila Sarovich
2017: Cindy Jones
2018: Chip Evans
2019: Eugenia Tang
2021: Jib Chutipong
2023: Judy Pagano

2024: Georgia McDaniel
2025: Janet Coffey