

## Craven Given Humanitarian Service Award

Soft-spoken businessman Steve Craven "was one of the first pilots who said, 'I will go'" when Katrina struck, notes Steve Patterson, executive vice-president of Angel Flight.

Craven flew evacuees, medical supplies, and relief workers over a six-day period in his six-seater Piper Saratoga

Earlier this month in Las Vegas, the pilot and tire dealer

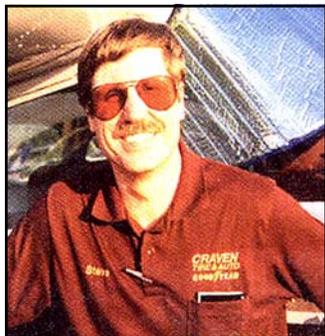
was presented the prestigious Tire Dealer Humanitarian Award at the Tire Industry Association's annual convention.

This is the twelfth year the honor has been given to an independent tire dealer or retailer who "has made significant contributions to the betterment of his community through charitable or public service work" and who demonstrates "an unselfish commitment to the betterment of others."

Along with an engraved medal, Craven received \$1,000 to give to his favorite charity (Angel Flight, of course!).

"It was very humbling, to stand

before my peers and be honored in such a way. It has certainly opened up a lot of eyes to Angel Flight. Dozens of people have said, 'I never knew Angel Flight existed,'" he said.



The 52-year-old Paeonian Springs, Va., resident is featured on the front page of the current *Tire Business* magazine.

He is the president of Angel Flight Mid-Atlantic and a founding member of Angel Flight America. He joined Angel Flight in 1995 and has since flown nearly 200 missions.

"I've flown patients with practically every disease and every symptom. I've flown infants and children and the elderly, and have done flights as far south as Miami and as far north as New Hampshire."

He is owner and president of Craven Tire and Auto Co., a seven-outlet dealership based in Fairfax. The company's motto, displayed in all stores, is "To please God with the quality of our work."

Craven is an elder at Destiny Church in Leesburg, Va., a board member of Faith in the Family, a member of the Christian Businessman's Committee, and an advisory council member of Joe Gibbs' Youth for Tomorrow Foundation.

Randy Mills, director of operations for Craven Tire, estimates his boss spends "about half his time on organizations and charities outside

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the business," as quoted in the *Tire Business* article.

Steve and his wife Gay have five children, ranging in age from 26 to 8.

"I've been blessed with good health and healthy children, and I realized God intended for me to do this [Angel Flight]—that this was what it was all about," he said.



Congratulations, Steve, from your friends and fellow pilots at Angel Flight!