

**KEVIN GRAFFAGNINO**  
**Lifetime Achievement Award**  
**5-14-2020**

**INTRO**

The Award should be an occasion to celebrate with a room full of colleagues, friends, fellow historians, scholars, bibliophiles, CRV members and Student award winners and, especially Leslie, who has played a major role in your success.

The CRV must go on and keep its presence as a living and strengthening organization, so we meet virtually from our own homes. But when you and Leslie return to Vermont, many of us will look forward to a second celebration in person.

**THE FIB THAT WORKED**

After youthful years exploring the cultural amenities, reading voraciously (Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Montpelier), speed reading at 3600 wpm, penning many book reports, and dreams of athletic prowess until our recipient blew out a knee. He moved from Montpelier to Williston and attended CVU.

## PUBLICATION

In late 1977 I assumed the role of editor of *Vermont History* and left UVM to become president of Colby-Sawyer College. Between 1978 and 1985 when I left the college for the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in Madison, I published 8 as he became a very capable writer.

Ken has a long bibliography that would alone qualify him for the Lifetime Achievement Award, with no other accomplishments, through their quantity, quality, and range. He published about Vermont history and especially , literary figures (Sinclair

Lewis, Walter Hard), Wood ), maps (*The Chambers Atlas of Lake Champlain*), bibliography, printing, prints, books, paper treasures, railroads, and

When he went to Wisconsin in 1995 as Director of a huge library, he continued to publish on Vermont topics like steamboats and as an editor with John Duffy on the collected works of *Ethan Allen and His Kin*. Since he left Vermont in 1995 for

William L. Clements Library, he has participated in writing or editing 16 or 17 books, and the one he told me he ranked high on the list, if not at the top, is *The Vermont Difference* (2014).

As he continued to publish he exhibited many other talents. At Special Collections at UVM where he worked for 17 years, he began to get around Vermont speaking, (He will never forget his first presentation that I arranged for him at the Annual Meeting of the Vermont Historical Society VHS) making other presentations, and cultivating collectors who owned material that he wanted to add to the Wilbur Collection. He earned recognition as a young Trustee of VHS, on a CRV Committee, the board of the LCMM (Recognizing that he and Art Cohn had more than a career, they had a calling ), the Committee for a New England Bibliography, and UVM and New England Phi Beta Kappa leadership. He also developed a talent for fund-raising first through book sales for Special Co0(5)-3( f)10(o)-3(r )JT

