

## Watts Scholar Awards

### *Guidelines*

The DAVID WATTS SCHOLARS are chosen annually by the state hosting the SRATE Conference. They are selected because of their potential to carry the torch that David left behind. The honor bestowed upon them carries recognition, privilege, opportunity and obligation. The recognition comes from being selected as outstanding future educators by the host state.

The privilege and opportunity come in the form of discourse and working with esteemed members of the education profession at the annual SRATE Conference. The obligation is fulfilled as these *scholars assist with the conference* and as they strive to achieve professional and personal goals that reflect the challenges and accomplishments that characterized the life and career of David Watts. Watts scholar recipients are required to attend the conference and fulfill the obligations as designated by the host state.

### **Tribute**

*David Watts was a "REAL" TEACHER and TEACHER EDUCATOR. It didn't happen all at once! David worked long and hard across many years to advantage the cause of quality teacher education. The respect accorded to David by the professional community was not ascribed; it was earned. David did not "break easily." When frustrations came, he did not quit, he doubled his efforts and worked harder. With courage he pushed and at times fought to make things better. He was never afraid to stand up for what he believed. David didn't have "sharp edges." He was easy to work with. He was gentle and kind and yet exerted strong leadership in the profession. He was never abrasive but always considerate. David did not have to be "carefully kept." He asked for little, and he gave much. Laughter was his constant companion. David's health failed quickly and a beautiful life ended prematurely, but David was a "REAL" teacher. The reality of who he was and what he stood for will remain a part of SRATE as we move into the future (from the Velveteen Rabbit).*

For questions regarding the Watts Scholarships, contact Dr. Jane Govoni, SRATE Executive Secretary at [drjmg7564@aol.com](mailto:drjmg7564@aol.com).

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