

2026 Retail Leader of the Year Nomination Form



IGIA Hall of Fame Dinner | Wed. Oct., 28
FFA Enrichment Center | 1055 SW Prairie Trail Pkwy, Ankeny, IA 50023

Nominations are due Fri., May 1, 2026

The Iowa Grocery Industry Association presents the Retail Leader of the Year Award each year at the IGIA's Hall of Fame Dinner. This prestigious award recognizes a retail professional for his or her outstanding work ethic and commitment to his or her company, employees and community.

Past Recipients

2025	Jill Eilderts, Hometown Foods	1984	Don Easter, Easter Stores & Enterprises
2024	Jeremy Gosch, Hy-Vee Inc.		
2023	Garrett Pıklapp, Fareway Stores, Inc.		
2022	Steve Grolmus, North Scott Foods		
2019	Ivan Thede, The Market of Madrid		
2018	Kyle Krause, Kum & Go		
2017	Brian Burnam, Keith's Foods		
2016	Reynolds Cramer, Fareway Stores Inc.		
2015	Tom Watson, Hy-Vee Inc.		
2014	Randy Edeker, Hy-Vee Inc.		
2013	Dennis Dietrich, Gary's Foods		
2012	Ron Taylor, Hy-Vee Inc.		
2011	Rick Beckwith, Fareway Stores Inc.		
2010	Lyndon Johnson, Hometown Foods		
2009	Ric Jurgens, Hy-Vee Inc.		
2008	Ross Nixon, Dahl's Foods		
2007	Ray Stewart, Hy-Vee Inc.		
2006	Fred Greiner, Fareway Stores Inc.		
2005	Scott Havens, Scott's Foods		
2004	Doug Fallgatter, Fallgatter's Market		
2003	Mike Tetmeyer, Hy-Vee Inc.		
2002	F. William Beckwith, Fareway Stores Inc.		
2001	Jim Woods, Hy-Vee Inc.		
2000	Bill Krause, Kum and Go, L.C.		
1999	Garth Grafft, Big "G" Food Store Inc.		
1998	Ken Stroud, Dahl's Foods		
1997	Bob Cramer, Fareway Stores Inc.		
1996	Virgil Wahlman, Buy Rite Foods Inc.		
1995	Ron Pearson, Hy-Vee Inc.		
1994	Dennis Schwab, Country Foods		
1992	Bob Hand, Dahl's Foods		
1991	Al Latuska, Randall Foods		
1989	Harlan Dubansky, Harland Enterprises		
1988	Donald Lamberti, Casey's General Stores		
1985	Swede Skeffington, Skeffington's Jack & Jill Grocery Store		

How to Nominate

To nominate a candidate for the 2026 Retail Leader of the Year Award, simply complete the form that follows.

Winners are selected by the Hall of Fame Committee and honored at the annual Hall of Fame Dinner. The recipient should plan to attend the banquet to receive the award.

Recognition

Winners will be notified in June and will be featured in the Hall of Fame issue of the iowa grocer magazine. A press release and media event will be scheduled in advance to announce the winners. An award will also be provided to display. The award will be presented during the 2026 Hall of Fame Dinner, Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny.

Eligibility

A nominee should exemplify outstanding character, work ethic and commitment to his or her company, employees and the community. Honorees must be current IGIA members and must attend the IGIA Hall of Fame Dinner.

Nominee Information		
Name of Nominee:	Title:	
Store:	Phone:	
Street Address:		
City:	State:	ZIP:
List a few of the nominee's community achievements:		
Explain how the nominee has contributed to the grocery industry:		
Highlight how the nominee shows a commitment to their company and employees:		
Outline the personal characteristics that make this nominee outstanding:		
Other comments:		
Nominated by (Optional):		

Attach any additional information to this nomination form.

Submit this form by Friday, May 1, 2026 to:

Iowa Grocery Industry Association | c/o Hall of Fame Dinner Committee
 2540 106th Street, Suite 102 | Urbandale, Iowa 50322
 Phone: 515-270-2628
 Email: mhurd@iowagrocers.com