



Joseph M. Kaplan Safe Driver of the Year Award



About Joseph M. Kaplan

For over 60 years, Joseph M. Kaplan was the president of the Southern California Chapter of the National Safety Council. His legacy includes building awareness for safety belt use through the “Buckle Up for Life Challenge”, a program that combined a unique coalition of media, local government, employers, and community.

Since his initial involvement with the Los Angeles Safety Council in 1936, Mr. Kaplan had been a pioneer for making significant contributions to safety education. Most notably safety education films that are widely available to the public and industry. In the 1950’s, he served on the White House Commission for Traffic Safety under President Eisenhower and was also on the team that led NSC to be granted a U.S. Congressional Charter in 1953.

Mr. Kaplan passed away on May 6, 2010, at the age of 95. He will be greatly missed, and his legacy will live on.

About the Award

Kaplan’s legacy of promoting roadway safety and reducing preventable crashes lives on through this award, which celebrates drivers who embody the values of safety, dedication, and excellence.

Established in 2004, the Joseph M. Kaplan Safe Driver of the Year Award was created to recognize outstanding drivers throughout the country who have driven a significant number of miles/years behind the wheel without incurring a preventable crash. Due to an overwhelming number of submissions throughout the years, the Safe Driver of the Year Award has been expanded to recognize multiple safe drivers throughout the country by geographic region. Any member may submit drivers who they feel exemplify outstanding driving safety. The top drivers among all the nominees will be recognized with the highest honor as the **Joseph M. Kaplan Safe Driver of the Year**. All Award of Honor winners will receive a free personalized certificate from the National Safety Council recognizing their accomplishment.