



Richard and Jo Anne Lawson

Richard and Jo Anne taught, cued, and promoted round dancing from the early 1970s until their retirement in 2015. They operated and led their local club, J & R Rounds in the Birmingham area, for over 40 years. They traveled to teach and cue for 347 festivals/conventions in over 30 states, six Canadian provinces, Mexico, Germany, and New Zealand. They choreographed over 150 dances - with approximately 50 of those appearing in Roundalab's "Top 10;" five voted as a Roundalab "Golden

Classic;" and one awarded the prestigious "Hall of Fame Dance" by the International Choreographed Ballroom Dance Assoc. In 2014, they were presented the Extra Mile Award, and in 2015 the Lifetime Award, of the Birmingham Square Dance Association. Perhaps their greatest accolade would be their high level of dedication to excellence, integrity, and service for over 40 years to tens of thousands of the world-wide square and round dance community - including their tremendous influence on scores of cuers. As Richard was heard to say, "We thought of ourselves as square dancers who also taught rounds (Jo Anne always wore square dance outfits with full petticoats). What a grand adventure it turned out to be for us."

NOTE: For a sample of Richard and Jo Anne's dedication to excellence in dance and choreography, search on YouTube for "Hooked on Classics, Lawsons."