It is no surprise to us in RULE Staff that RULE Advisory Board President, Jackie Syktich, would be recognized for her imprint on community service with the Distinguished Service Award on behalf of the DuBois Area Jaycees. An alumna of RULE XI Rocks, Jackie is emblematic of a RULE speaker who always gets the audience to their feet to interact, and leaves engaged, broad smiles. Jackie has the capacity to convert a nursery rhyme into a leadership lesson and common sayings into symphonies.

After decades in recognized community college ownership and administration, Jackie was led to be the owner and caregiver-in-chief for Nelson’s Golden Year’s Personal Care Home in DuBois, PA. Jackie is married to Paul, a business owner in DuBois and they will celebrate 35 years together this summer along with their adult children: Rachel Steele, husband Matt, Erika and Garret Syktich. Two granddaughters, Eva and Mila Steele comprise this family’s horizon.

Community awards recognize the heartbeat of “home base” is amplified by volunteers and those who contribute to a hometown thrum. This award recognizes, “success to vocation, involvement in community and service to faith.” Unsuspectingly, Jackie responded, “I’m very blessed and this is a very honorable moment because I know the people that have received this award and what that means, and I would be nothing without all of you.” Jackie has been a alchemist for the PA Rural-Urban Leadership Program of Penn State Extension for 12 years as Board President.

“Her passion for service, along with her professional experience has led her to help our community in many ways. She is leaving a legacy of service for her family to follow for generations. A true role model and leader to many.”
~ Rachel Steele

“The first quality that is needed is audacity.”
~Winston Churchill