

Albert F. Wisialko

Recipient of the John J. Cronin Public Service Award

The John J. Cronin Public Service Award Committee annually awards Westwood's highest honor to an individual who has been remarkable in service to the community. John J. Cronin, Town Treasurer, for many years selflessly gave of his time and expertise for the betterment of the community, both as an elected official and in numerous volunteer activities. To recognize the spirit of community involvement illustrative of John Cronin's life, it is with great pleasure we announce Albert F. Wisialko as the twenty-second recipient of the John J. Cronin Public Service Award.

Albert Wisialko was elected as the Tax Collector in 1989, a role he held for over thirty years, retiring in September 2021. With over three decades of dedicated service to the town, his service will be a longevity difficult to match. Upon graduating from Boston College in 1985, Albert, or "Al", as many know him, joined his family's accounting business, expanding the business into financial planning. As the Tax Collector, Al used his professional experience to help residents with their tax questions and dedicated a portion of his time to working with our elderly population, whether to review their taxes or to provide collection alternatives that were acceptable to both the town and the residents.

During Al's time served in office, the Tax Collector's office consistently had 98 to 99% collection rates of motor vehicle, real estate, and personal property taxes. Several improvements in tax collection operations occurred including the adoption of quarterly billing, in-house bill printing, elimination of service bureau usage, implementation of Automated Clearing House (ACH) payments, online bill payment, and Invoice Cloud.

Al served on numerous Boards and Committees, such as the Aid to the Elderly and Infirm Committee, the Islington Center Task Force, the Public Safety Task Force, the Long Range Financial Planning Committee, and the Computer Study Committee. He was also a part of the Centennial Parade Committee.

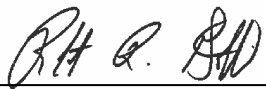
In addition to his municipal work, Albert served as a Boy Scout Troop Leader, Scout Master, and Troop Committee Chairman for Troop One Islington. He coached numerous sports in Westwood, including soccer, Pop Warner football, AAU basketball, and Babe Ruth baseball. He is currently the president of the Westwood Sports Hall of Fame, a 16-year board member, and the treasurer.

Albert was a Westwood resident for over 59 years. With his wife Ruth, he raised three boys in Westwood, Albert, Joseph, and Nicholas, and he is a grandfather of five, Albert, Harrison, Leo, Amelia, and Wyatt.

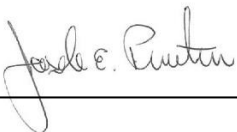
On behalf of the John J. Cronin Public Service Award Committee, it is with great pleasure that we present this prestigious award to Albert F. Wisialko and add his name to the plaque displayed in Town Hall listing all previously honored individuals.



Marianne C. LeBlanc Cummings, Chair



Robert R. Gotti, Clerk



Joseph E. Previterra, Third Member