Citation at Casey Wondergem's Retirement Party, delivered at Tinseltown Restaurant on April 18, 2000

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Citation at Casey Wondergem’s Retirement Party
Tuesday, April 18, 2000
Tinseltown Restaurant

Casey Wondergem, artful dodger, dedicated soothsayer, skillful extractor and faithful gatekeeper, you are known throughout the region, state, and nation as the foremost expert at spending other people’s money. You have been a bridge over which dollars find their way from one pocket to another. You have been the key, opening the door to public office for many on whom you have given your blessing. No public event in Grand Rapids is permitted to take place unless you give it your stamp of approval.

Though you put Amway at risk by retiring and threaten to seize power at the Van Andel Institute, your friends gather on this occasion of transition to pay homage and recognize your accomplishments in political engineering. You have been described as a modern day cross between St. Francis and Machiavelli and all of us who have benefited from your advice and planning will never forget your admonition and formula for success when you left us with these wise words, “Don’t piss off your consultant.”