In-Service Training Award

In Memory of Clarence E. Ridley

hen Burke Raymond joined Jackson County, Oregon, as its administrator in 1986, he set up the first county-wide training classes for employees. Raymond recognizes training as the key that unlocks untapped potential and energizes employees.

Jackson County employees call their training program BEST— Building Effective Service Teams. The goal of BEST is to provide increased job skills, personal growth, and the tools each Jackson County employee needs to become a participative, enthu-



Burke Raymond

siastic, and innovative employee. Training provided under the BEST program ranges from customer service to conflict

management. The training has sparked a spirit of teamwork that has lifted sagging morale. BEST has enabled
individuals to make changes that
have improved their jobs and the
county's services. Employees
have used the skills they acquired
through BEST to reorganize their
service delivery systems. According to a recent citizen survey, the
citizens have noticed the changes
and like them. PM