

## Shining Our Light on New York for One Night



The Lions' colors were part of the New York skyline on July 10.

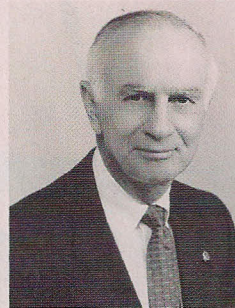
**A tribute** to Lions' centennial, the iconic Empire State Building was lit up in Lions' colors for one night in July. The top spire and antenna of the 102-story skyscraper in Manhattan were illuminated in gold and 25 floors were lit in blue.

"Since the 1930s the Empire State Building has stood for progress and a view of the future. Lighting it up with our colors helps Lions appreciate our proud past and our bright future," says 2016-17 International Director Robert Libin of New York. Libin and International President Naresh Aggarwal spoke at a ceremony before the lighting. The lighting was sponsored by the Long Island City-Astoria Lions Club, one of the oldest in New York and home of 1939-40 International President Alexander Wells, and the Queens Centennial Lions Club with coordination by Lion Pablo Romano.

### THE WUNDER YEARS

Born on a farm in rural Kansas, William Wunder helped transform lives and reverse or prevent blindness in far-flung nations such as China and Sudan. Past International President Wunder, 87, died Aug. 10.

A Lion since 1982, Wunder belonged



to the Wichita Northwest Lions Club. He was elected international president at the association's 78th International Convention in Seoul, Korea, in July 1995.

The people he served as a Lion always remained vivid and consequential to him. He never forgot the mother in Kansas whose 7-year-old son received glasses from his club and wrote the club to explain how it turned his life around. "The mother's letter ended with this sentence, and I'll never forget it as long as I live: 'Thank God for the Lions,'" Wunder told the LION in 1995.

His presidency was full of accomplishment. He helped form a partnership between the Peoples Republic of China and Lions Clubs International Foundation that resulted in 1.75 million cataract surgeries in China and paved the way for establishing Lions clubs in China. He also worked with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and The Carter Center to significantly reduce river blindness in Sudan.

His presidential theme was Leadership, and Wunder championed leadership during his travels to 84 nations. He also helped develop the Leadership Division at headquarters as well as introduced the Lioness Conversion Program to encourage Lionesses to become Lions.

Leadership was central to his working life. He was a colonel in the U.S. Army and then president of Marymount College in Kansas.