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PRESS RELEASE

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WELD COUNTY GOVERNMENT MOURNS LOSS OF ONE OF THEIR OWN

WELD COUNTY, CO – Today, Weld County government mourns for one of their own with the passing of long-time employee Pat Persichino. Persichino, who worked for the county for 32 years, passed away this morning peacefully at his home.



Weld County Director of Public Works Pat Persichino working at the county Snow Desk in February this year.

Persichino, who was currently serving as the Director of the Weld County Public Works Department, had also worked as the county's Director of Veteran's Services; Director of General Services (including Buildings and Grounds, Purchasing, the Print Shop, Human Resources), Director of Planning and Health Department and Director of Public Works.

"It is a really sad day," said Commissioner Barbara Kirkmeyer who is serving as the Commissioner Coordinator of the Public Works Department this year. "Pat and I have been friends for 22 years. We lost some of our family today. Pat touched a lot of people in this county. He was gregarious in nature...a good guy, and we are going to miss him a lot."

"He was my best friend," said Weld County Director of Budget and Management Analysis Don Warden, "and I will truly miss him. A lot of what has been achieved in Weld County was in part because of Pat. With the exception of my wife, I don't think I shared more meals with anyone else than Pat." Warden and Persichino had lunch daily for approximately 30 years. "He was a unique person. He mentored a lot of people in this county; he influenced a lot of county employees. He was proud of the employees and what they accomplished," said Warden.

Warden also spoke of Persichino's personality during a department head meeting this morning when Commissioners shared the news of Persichino. "Pat had a hard crust on the outside and a golden heart on the inside," Warden said. "He once had an employee who was a single mom and couldn't afford Christmas gifts. Pat played Santa Clause to her family. That is the type of guy he was."

Persichino was originally hired by Weld County in September 1980, after he received his master's degree in Personnel Administration from the University of Northern Colorado (UNC). He came to UNC from the East Coast after he served 10 years in the United States Air Force, retiring in 1977 as a Captain. He and his wife, Zan, made their home in Severance.

"Persichino exemplified the spirit of a true public servant, and Weld County will greatly miss him," said Monica Mika Director of Finance and Administration.

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