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Plaza Red Bud, Inc. President Receives N.G.A. Spirit of America Award

ARLINGTON, Virginia (November 5, 2002) — On October 22, 2002, Steve Davis, President, Plaza Red Bud, Inc. and former chairman of the Oklahoma Grocers Association, received the N.G.A. Spirit of America Award at the Oklahoma Grocers Association's annual convention Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The award was presented by N.G.A. Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Tom Wenning, to Davis in praise of his support and leadership of the Oklahoma Grocers Association, in recognition of his active and effective participation in government affairs to preserve and foster the principals of free enterprise, and as a strong and effective advocate for the independent food distribution industry.

Davis is very active in the community, donating to a variety of community projects and school fundraisers. His store, though facing adversity, holds its' own against tremendous competition, remains profitable, and has received many awards. Much of his success stems from the loyalty of his customers and his employees. He is generous to a fault, supports his community, and is always willing to share his knowledge with his fellow grocers.

His active involvement extends to the Oklahoma Grocers Association, where he has served on the OGA Board of Directors and as chairman in 2000-2001. In addition, he serves on the Coupon Board and as a trustee for the Oklahoma Grocers Education Foundation. His support and encouragement for the Oklahoma Grocers Association is unequalled.

The N.G.A. Spirit of America Award, established in 1982, honors key industry and community figures whom have provided leadership in the areas of community services and government relations on behalf of a free and independent food distribution system. Recipients of the award have included former Presidents Gerald Ford and George Bush; former Vice President Dan Quayle; former Speaker of the House, Tom Foley; Clinton Administration Chief of Staff, Leon Panetta; as well as other distinguished individuals serving the public interest.

N.G.A. is the national trade association representing the retail and wholesale grocers that comprise the independent sector of the food distribution industry. An independent retailer is a privately owned or controlled food retail company operating in a variety of formats. Some are publicly traded but with controlling shares held by the family and others are employee owned. Most independent operators are serviced by wholesale distributors, while others may be partially or fully self-distributing. Independents are the true "entrepreneurs" of the grocery industry and dedicated to their customers, associates, and communities. N.G.A. members include retail and wholesale grocers and their state associations, as well as manufacturers and service suppliers.