



The Azalea Society of America is honored to present

THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

to

Joseph Klimavicz

in recognition of your many contributions to the Azalea Society of America. You are a well-known figure within the azalea community. You have been a hybridizer of evergreen azaleas since 1980, and, more recently, deciduous azaleas, providing us with dozens of new and exciting cultivars. The Klimavicz hybrids are known for their beauty and vigor. They are featured in a dedicated Klimavicz Legacy Garden at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens in Vienna, VA

You have been generous in sharing your knowledge of azaleas, their hybridization, and their propagation. You have spoken at Azalea Society conventions, chapter meetings and to other plant groups. You have given countless tours, organized and ad hoc, of your garden and the azalea test beds, and have readily shared plants, cuttings, and seeds with many people and groups.

You have served as President to the Northern Virginia Chapter for multiple terms. You have generously donated the naming rights of some of your hybrids as a means of generating funds for your chapter.

Joe, the Society greatly appreciates your past and continued contributions and the promotion of azaleas, and thanks you for your service and dedication.

Awarded this 14th day of April, 2026

*Aaron Cook
President*

*Robert Lee
Awards Chairman*