

BARROW MAYOR HONORED -- Nate Olemaun, Mayor of the City of Barrow, recently was named one of the outstanding young men of the year for 1979 by the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Barrow mayor receives honor

Barrow City Mayor Nate Olemaun, 35, has been selected as a recipient of the National Junior Chamber of Commerce's (Jay Cee's) Outstanding Young Man of the Year award for 1979.

Olemaun, who was born and raised in the Inupiat community of Barrow, graduated from high school in 1960 and then went on to attend the ITT Technical College in San Francisco. Upon graduation from that institution he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force.

He returned to Barrow in 1970, where he went to work for the Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) as a roustabout in the Prudhoe Bay. Through the years, advanced Olemaun has through the ranks and currently is ARCO's senior material associate for its Prudhoe Bay operation.

Desiring to improve his hometown community, Olemaun ran for and was elected to the Barrow City Council in 1972. He served on the council until 1977 when he ran for and was elected as the City Mayor of Barro.

Olemaun has also served as a board member on the Governor's Mental Health Advisory Board, executive board member for Inupiat University, and an elder in the Barrow Presbyterian Church.

He was married in 1970 to his childhood sweetheart Ida Oyagak, and now they are proud parents of three energetic bilingual boys.

"I was very pleased and surprised to learn that I had been nominated for such an award and even more surprised to learn that I had been selected," Olemaun said upon learning of the honor. "I became involved in various activities because of my committments to my family and community.