CAPA | **CERTIFIED AUTO PARTS**

NEWS

In Memoriam of Clarence M. Ditlow, III, Executive Director, Center for Auto Safety

Statement of Jack Gillis on the death of Clarence M. Ditlow, III,
Executive Director, Center for Auto Safety

Washington, D.C. – On November 10, 2016, America lost one of the most effective consumer advocates in its history with the death of Clarence M. Ditlow, III. He was one of the founding members of the Certified Automotive Parts Association, fighting hard to protect consumers from both overpriced parts and poor quality parts. In the mid 1980's he fought shoulder to shoulder with Automotive Service Association's Don Randall to get the FTC to address the monopoly that car companies had on collision repair parts.

For over four decades, Clarence fought tirelessly to stem the terrible toll that automobiles take on American society. In addition, he was one of the first to understand the impact of the automobile on the environment. Clarence was likely responsible for saving more lives than anyone else in the auto safety community. His efforts were monumental, his effectiveness unmatched, and his dedication to public service was a beacon for hundreds of advocates. This is a tragic blow to public safety at a time when consumer protections are at such great risk. Personally, this is profoundly sad news. I have worked with Clarence almost daily for 37 years, and like many, knew him as an uncompromising advocate, a true compass for what's right, and a loyal friend. He will be dearly missed on many levels.

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