

Diploma

From A1

Principal Dan Foster stepped to the podium and announced that the moment had arrived for honoring "a special community

member."

Describing Schaefer's difficult decision as a teenager to drop out of school and then to fight in World War II, Foster said: "Raymond not only served his country, but he also served the world."

Joined by School Superinten-

dent Lucas Francois, Foster presented Schaefer with a graduation cap and gown in Waterford's dark green color.

The principal then announced that Schaefer had completed the work necessary to qualify as a graduate, and Schaefer received

his diploma along with a commemorative medallion engraved with "Ragone County School of Agriculture."

The crowd erupted in applause as the graduation march "Pomp and Circumstance" played over the public-address system.

School staff and some students congratulated Schaefer, while friends and others took turns getting their pictures taken with the new graduate.

"It's great," Schaefer said. "I've thought about it many times. I'm excited."