



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Laurie Batter

[batterup@batterupproductions.com](mailto:batterup@batterupproductions.com)

760.518.9304

## **HOT SPRING SPAS ANNOUNCES THREE ‘RING OF HONOR’ WINNERS**

**VISTA, Calif., March 13, 2017** – At its *Hot Spring Experience* Dealer Kickoff held in Newport Beach, California, Hot Spring® Spas honored three winners with its prestigious Ring of Honor award. This award recognizes individuals for their contributions to the Hot Spring brand. Honorees are inducted into the Ring of Honor for a lifetime of achievement, as well as for traits that include passion, character, competitive spirit and willingness to help others succeed.

Three separate Ring of Honor recipients and industry veterans were honored this year, which marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hot Spring Spas. Two of the three 2016 winners are Tom



*Watkins Wellness President Steve Hammock, left, with Tom Walker, right and Michelle Soule.*

Walker and Scott Smith of Mountain Hot Tubs in Bozeman, Montana. Smith, who passed away in 2001 in a car accident, was honored in memoriam. The third recipient was John Kasten Sr. of Creative Energy, in the San Francisco Bay area.

“Tom Walker is a lifelong learner and true believer in what we do as hot tubbers,” said Mike Dunn, Executive Vice President of Watkins Wellness™. “Tom is well known for his belief in people and relentless about his personal investment in them.”

“Tom and Scott Smith were childhood friends and partners who started Mountain Hot Tubs together in the late 1970s,” Dunn said. “Scott was known as ‘the service guy.’ He loved what he did and he was great at it. His phenomenal work ethic was matched perhaps only by his generosity. He is missed and he will always be part of the Watkins Wellness family.”

“John Kasten of Creative Energy is a man of genuine warmth and kindness, and the first of three generations now working in the hot tub business,” Dunn said. “He is a legend in our industry. He is still active in day-to-day operations in the San Francisco Bay area. He believes in Hot Spring today more than ever. In fact, he just opened a new showroom.”

## **About Hot Spring Spas**

Hot Spring Spas is the world's leading brand of hot tubs with more than 1 million sold. With a network of more than 700 independent dealers throughout North America and 70 countries around the world, Hot Spring provides customers with the highest level of quality, innovation, energy efficiency and customer support. Hot Spring Spas are manufactured by Watkins Wellness, a division of Masco Corporation, a Fortune 500 company whose products include such trusted brands as Delta® faucets, KraftMaid® cabinets and BEHR® paints. Visit [HotSpring.com](http://HotSpring.com) for more information and for dealer locations.

###