

CCMS PRESIDENT INDUCTED INTO U.S. ARMY QUARTERMASTER HALL OF FAME

Col. (retired) Jack E. Lechner Jr. was honored May 7 by being inducted into the U.S. Army Quartermaster Hall of Fame. The Quartermaster Corps was authorized by Congress June 16, 1775. The Hall of Fame recognizes retired military and civilians who have made lasting, significant contributions to the Quartermaster Corps. There are fewer than 300 inductees.

The permanent display of Quartermaster Hall of Fame inductees includes each inductee's name, his or her photograph and a narrative of major achievements. It is located at the U.S. Army Quartermaster Museum at Fort Lee, Virginia. (Note: Mortuary Affairs is part of the Quartermaster Corps.)

Before enlisting in the Army as an infantryman, Lechner was a practicing funeral director for 10 years. He was commissioned as a Quartermaster officer after graduating from Officer Candidate School.

He earned a bachelor's degree in mortuary science (summa cum laude) from Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science through the Army's degree completion program. He holds a master's degree in logistics management from Florida Insti-

tute of Technology and a master's in national resource strategy/supply chain concentration from the National Defense University in Washington, D.C.

"He is a graduate of Supply Chain Operations Reference Model Training, LOGTECH Program for Executives in Logistics and Technology, Kenan-Flagler Business School, the University of North Carolina and the U.S. Army Senior Executive Education Program at Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia.

"Lechner also completed advanced bereavement skills training at the Center for Loss & Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colorado, and the General Officer/Senior Executive Service training course at Fort Belvoir in Virginia.

Lechner was appointed president and CEO of Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science in 2016. ccms.edu



From left: Quartermaster Corps Command Sgt. Maj. Eric J. Vidal; Brig. Gen. Douglas M. McBride, Quartermaster General; and Jack E. Lechner at Lechner's induction ceremony for the U.S. Army Quartermaster Hall of Fame.



FINE MORTUARY STUDENTS CERTIFIED IN SEA BURIALS

Captain Brad White, founder of New England Burials at Sea (NEBAS), reported that 23 students from Fine Mortuary Col-

lege's 2019 summer academic year participated in the NEBAS Sea Burial Certification Program offered to colleges, universities, associations and multi-unit funeral homes by NEBAS. "The class took great interest in the 2019 training and certification program, so they could immediately use the newly acquired knowledge and bring the info back to their funeral homes for family client offerings," said White. "Students learned the best methods and practices of scat-

terings and intact sea burials by boat and airplane." Added FINE program director Sarah A. Stopyra: "Captain Brad White's presentation is always one of the most captivating and informative for our students in the course 'Issues and Concerns of a Modern Funeral Service Professional.' This course investigates the changing face of funeral service and the many unique options that are available to families in our modern world. The students leave the class thoroughly informed about sea burial options and the legality surrounding this unique form of disposition. We are grateful for our continued collaboration with New England Burials at Sea, which is helping us bring to students the most relevant, forward-thinking options in the industry." fmc.edu

PIMS STUDENTS PRESENTED WITH WPFDA SCHOLARSHIPS



Two Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science students who attended the Western Pennsylvania Funeral Directors Association annual convention were presented with scholarships from the association. Sandra Zampogna and Conner McCowin are pictured with PIMS Dean Dr. Joe Marsaglia (far left) and Norman Weimer (far right), WPFDA continuing education chairman. Congratulations to the recipients and thanks to WPFDA for the scholarships and all they do for PIMS and funeral service.