

# The Buckeye Director

A publication of the Ohio Funeral Directors Association

Winter 2009

**Fourth Annual PAC  
Sporting Clay Outing  
Hits the Mark!**

**pg 10**

**Tiffin Pilot Continues  
Humanitarian Efforts with  
Animal Rescue Flights**

**pg 13**

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# The Buckeye Director

Volume 1 • Issue 4

## The Ohio Funeral Directors Association

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### OFDA Mission Statement

To represent and support our membership by promoting professional standards and excellence in funeral service.



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## The Buckeye Director Magazine Schedule

The schedule for all contributors to adhere to for future publications is as follows:

March publication deadline is January 20, 2010

If your copy is not received by the deadline date, it will not be published. We feel it necessary to impose these restrictions in order to better serve our members.

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# OFDA

The 130<sup>th</sup> OFDA Annual Convention and Exhibition

## Lighting the Way



**APRIL**  
**27, 28 & 29**  
**2010**

Hyatt Regency and the Columbus Convention Center in Downtown Columbus



# Holiday Greetings!

Greetings to all of you during this holiday season! What a joyous time of year that we can spend with family and friends and be thankful for what we have.



*Thomas Flemming*

Lyn and I would like to extend the warmest wishes to everyone during this holiday season. May it be safe and bountiful for all of us. During this holiday season, and throughout the year, we should remember those who are less fortunate than us and also be very mindful and thankful for those who serve our country to allow us the freedom we have.

It has been an honor to serve as your president the past seven months and to represent OFDA, keeping members foremost in our mind, at the many state and national functions we attend. I want to thank the Board of Directors and the staff at OFDA for their

insight and resourcefulness that allows me to better serve my position.

In closing, and knowing that, very soon, the winter blues are going to be upon us, I would be remiss if I did not remind you again of the Mid-Winter Educational Conference in Aruba. Lyn and I would love for all of you to join us, get 12 hours of continuing education, enjoy great companionship and come home with a sun-tan. Mark your calendars — complete information is available at the OFDA office or on the Web site.

Again, warmest wishes to all of you this holiday season!

## Calendar of Events



### DECEMBER

- 3 Executive Committee Meeting, Polaris
- 4 Staff/Officer Holiday Lunch, Polaris
- 8 Insurance Seminar, OFDA Headquarters
- 15 District 5 Meeting, Kenwood
- 24-25 OFDA Office Closed in Observance of the Holiday

### JANUARY 2010

- 1 OFDA Office Closed; New Year's Day
- 19 Master Trust Committee Meeting, OFDA Headquarters
- 19 Executive Committee Meeting, OFDA Headquarters

- 20 Board of Directors Meeting, OFDA Headquarters

### FEBRUARY 2010

- 16 Master Trust Committee Meeting, OFDA Headquarters
- 16 Executive Committee Meeting, OFDA Headquarters
- 26-3/3 OFDA Annual Education Conference, Aruba

### MARCH 2010

- 8-10 NFDA Advocacy Summit, Washington, D.C.
- 16 Master Trust Committee Meeting, OFDA Headquarters
- 16 Executive Committee Meeting, OFDA Headquarters

- TBA OFDA Legislative Reception, Downtown Columbus

### APRIL 2010

- 26 Insurance Seminar, Hyatt Regency, Columbus
- 26 Master Training Seminar, Hyatt Regency, Columbus
- 26 Executive Committee Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Columbus
- 27 Board of Directors Meeting, Hyatt Regency, Columbus
- 27-29 130th OFDA Convention, Downtown Columbus



*Stephen J. Gehlert*

# Thoughtful Gifts for the Season

As we prepare to celebrate and enjoy the holiday season, I wish to thank all of the members and partners of OFDA for another great year! Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated by everyone connected with our association.



This is also the time of year when we thoughtfully show our love for family and friends by the giving of gifts.

I would like to suggest each of us consider giving the following eight gifts to those we care for — they won't cost you anything but a little time, but they will be priceless to those who receive them.

### **1. The Gift of Listening**

No interrupting, no daydreaming, no planning your response. Just listening!

### **2. The Gift of Affection**

Be generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, pats on the back and handshakes.

### **3. The Gift of Laughter**

Clip cartoons, share articles and funny stories, and reminisce about holidays past.

### **4. The Gift of a Written Note**

It can be a simple "thanks for the help" note or a full sonnet. A brief handwritten note may be remembered for a lifetime and may even change a life.

### **5. The Gift of a Compliment**

Make it simple and sincere; it will make someone's day.

### **6. The Gift of a Favor**

Go out of your way to do something kind — maybe even for a stranger!

### **7. The Gift of Solitude**

There are times when we want nothing better than to be left alone. Be sensitive to those times, and give the gift of solitude to others.

### **8. The Gift of a Cheerful Disposition**

Extend a kind word to someone; greet everyone with a smile and a "Hello" or "Thank you" — it works wonders.

I wish each of you quality time to enjoy family and friends during this holiday season, and may God bless you and your work.



# Password PROTECTION

by Bob Shank Jr., OFDA Director of Technology



In the last article, I spoke about the importance of establishing your Web presence by selecting the proper name. I hope everyone has done that already. And if you have, I know that you now have at least one more account that needed a password to protect. Passwords can be painful to deal with. But if they are not handled properly, they can cause a major catastrophe to you and your business. So in this article, I am going to discuss passwords, how to select them, what makes them good or bad, and I will even look at some techniques you may employ in order to manage your growing collection of passwords.

Passwords can be hard to manage with the number of Web sites now requiring them to access data. Even the new OFDA Web site has a password-protected area. You should NOT use the same password for all of your different accesses. I know it is



more difficult to manage, but if someone would be able to compromise one of your logins, he or she has them all. This could be catastrophic to you and your business if you have used the same password for your company and personal bank accounts.

The first item to think about when trying to formulate a new password is that it must be hard for people to guess but easy enough for you to remember. That means your kid's, dog's or spouse's names, birthdates, anniversary dates or any other item that is easy for others to look up about you is not a good basis for a password. Try to think of something that has meaning to you but is not something that others can easily find out about you. With whatever word you select as your basis, you should then add:

1. One or more numbers or special characters somewhere in that word
2. A CAPITAL letter somewhere in the word

So if my original word was "water," I could add "30" to the end ("30" is easy for me to remember; my dad's boat is 30 feet, and it goes on the water). I could then add a capital to the word and have a relatively safe password of "wAter30." If I wanted to go one step further, I could even begin or end my password with a special character, such as "^," ">" or "\*", creating something like "\*wAter30." The longer and more diverse a password is, the better it is. Some Web sites will even require a certain minimum length and a certain number of capitals, numbers or special characters.

Now that we know how to create passwords that are hard to guess for others, we also have passwords that will be hard for us to remember. Obviously, if you write a nice, neat list of passwords and keep them in your desk, they will be easy for you to find but also easy for anyone else to find and steal. Please do not write your passwords down on plain paper unless you hide that list in a safe or similarly restricted area. There are also programs available that will keep track of your passwords, and some will even enter them in to the appropriate Web sites automatically for you when you visit them. If you have many different logins for many different sites, a password program such as Password Safe or Password Agent might be something to consider.

If you don't want to use a program to manage your passwords, one technique I like to use is keeping a list in a Word document that has itself been password-protected. I then name the Word document something innocuous like "Bean Soup Recipe" or something else that sounds very boring. That way, even if someone gains access to my machine and looks for password files, they may not bother to look at that file because of its name. If they do try to look, the password on that file will stop them from getting to the information.

While no password is 100 percent safe, by using the techniques and tools outlined above, you can create a more secure online presence for yourself and your business. As always, if you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact me at [bob@ofdaonline.org](mailto:bob@ofdaonline.org) or 614-560-5182.



by Janet Blankenship, Resource Coordinator

Wishing all of you time this holiday season to be with family and friends. Listed below are dates, to place on your 2010 calendar, for further education for yourself or events you may want to acknowledge for the families you serve. Please feel free to contact the Resource Center for assistance in providing ideas and/or resources.

## National POMC (Parents of Murdered Children)

[www.pomc.com](http://www.pomc.com)

**Wednesday, January 13, 2010 – POMC's 16th Big Turn-Off<sup>SM</sup>**

The Big Turn-Off<sup>SM</sup> is an annual event asking citizens to turn off their TVs for three hours during the primetime segment of programming. This important event, held the second Wednesday in January each year, encourages society to protest television violence. The average child watching the average amount of television will witness 200,000 acts of violence by the age of 18. The goal of the Big Turn-Off<sup>SM</sup> is to empower people to object to what they find offensive and send a message that promotes non-violent programming.

## Insight Institute

Certified Celebrants

[www.insightbooks.com/celebrants](http://www.insightbooks.com/celebrants)

**September 2010, Chicago, Illinois (Tentative Schedule)**

## National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims

[www.pomc.com](http://www.pomc.com)

**September 25, 2010**

## ADEC (Association for Death Education and Counseling)

[www.adec.org](http://www.adec.org)

**April 7-10, 2010; Pre-Meeting April 6-7, 2010**

32nd Annual Conference – *Dying, Death and Bereavement: It's All About the Stories*

Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, Missouri

Keynote Speakers: Britt Hysing-Dahl, Thomas Lynch and Robert Neimeyer, PhD

## MetroHealth Medical Center and Busch Funeral and Crematory Services

[www.buschfuneral.com](http://www.buschfuneral.com)

October Seminar, MetroHealth Medical Center, Cleveland, Ohio

## National Crime Victims' Rights Week

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/ncvrw](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/ncvrw)

**April 18-24, 2010**

## OCTOBER IS

### Infant & Pregnancy Loss Month

Walk to Remember, [www.nationalshareoffice.com](http://www.nationalshareoffice.com)

Remembering Our Babies, [www.october15th.com](http://www.october15th.com)

## NOVEMBER IS

### National Hospice Month

[www.nhpco.org](http://www.nhpco.org)

## 12th Annual Central Ohio Conference on Grief

[www.nationwidechildrens.com/conferences](http://www.nationwidechildrens.com/conferences)

**Thursday, April 22, 2010 – Community Seminar**

**Friday, April 23, 2010 – Professional Workshop**

Linda Goldman, Children & Grief

Quest Conference Center, Polaris Parkway, Columbus, Ohio

## Midwest Center for Home, Hospice & Palliative Care Education (formerly Ohio Hospice & Palliative Care Organization)

[www.ohpco.org](http://www.ohpco.org)

**November 9-12, 2010**

Annual Fall Conference: *Bridging the Gaps*

Double Tree Hotel – Columbus/Worthington, Ohio

## The Grief Recovery Institute Certification Training

[www.grief-recovery.com](http://www.grief-recovery.com)

**June 25-28, 2010 – Columbus, Ohio**

## TCF (The Compassionate Friends)

[www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)

**Worldwide Candle-Lighting**

Second Sunday in December, 7 p.m., around the globe

Complete information available at [www.ofdaonline.org/estore](http://www.ofdaonline.org/estore) at Calendar of Events, under "It's all about the SERVICE."

If you know of other events and/or seminars to be added to the Calendar of Events, please send information to the OFDA Resource Center, [janet@ofdaonline.org](mailto:janet@ofdaonline.org), call 800-589-6332 or fax 800-507-1465.



## YOUNG FUNERAL DIRECTORS SEMINAR: **Legal & Financial Issues** for Today's Funeral Professional

by Jill Pugh, Young Funeral Directors Committee Member

On November 6, the Young Funeral Directors presented their yearly seminar to yet another sold-out audience. This year, the focus was providing funeral directors with up-to-date information on the legal aspects of our industry.

The morning started with OFDA General Counsel T. Scott Gilligan talking about important components of buying and selling funeral homes. He discussed the ways to protect yourself as both a buyer and a seller and gave us many valuable guidelines to protect ourselves during the transaction.

Next, Poul Lemasters talked to everyone about not letting your receivables add up and consume your business. He gave us many worthwhile tips on how to prevent accruing receivables. He also taught us the steps necessary to reduce the receivables already on the books.

The seminar continued with T. Scott Gilligan discussing Ohio's new Preneed Law. He spoke about the new required disclosures as well as sample language for price guarantees, payment of taxes and

treatment of excess funds. This was useful to help clear up any confusion and misunderstandings that anyone had.

Poul Lemasters then joined Mr. Gilligan to talk about how to select a preneed insurance company and why that decision is critical for maintaining the future profitability of a funeral home. This was especially important in light of recent preneed funding scandals and the downturn of the market.

The afternoon ended with both gentlemen discussing health and liability insurance for funeral homes. They mentioned how insurance is a complex issue that you cannot take for granted. We learned the basics of insurance, why it is critical to have coverage and the steps to make sure you are getting the right coverage.

The Young Funeral Directors would like to thank both Poul Lemasters and T. Scott Gilligan for their time and all of the important information they were so kind to share with us. We would also like to thank OFDA for once again hosting our sold-out seminar.



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# FOURTH ANNUAL PAC SPORTING CLAY OUTING Hits the Mark!

A great fall day for shooting clays! Mad River Sportsmen's Club hosted the October event for 39 OFDA members and their friends and family. We attracted teenagers and senior adults to the beautifully clear day of shooting in the hills of Zanesfield, Ohio.

The OFDA PAC graciously accepted a net profit of \$4,300 to the 2009 campaign. A big thank you to the sponsors who helped generate the much-appreciated revenue.





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**FIRST PLACE**  
87 CLAYS BROKEN

Gary Cromes, Sidney

**SECOND PLACE**  
80 CLAYS BROKEN

Mark Naill, Springfield

**THIRD PLACE**  
77 CLAYS BROKEN

Aaron Edwards, Sidney

**POKER RUN**  
BEST HAND

Matt Eley, Wapakoneta

# Does Your Embalming Machine Need a Formaldehyde Label?

by Barb Garrison, MS, CHMM, President, Safety and Environmental Solutions, LLC

In a word, yes. This question came up during a recent audit I conducted. The funeral home owner asked why a label is needed, since formaldehyde isn't stored in the machine. It is either used in the embalming process or disposed of immediately afterward because formaldehyde can damage the seals in the machine.

The tank on the embalming machine is considered a "container" as defined in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA's) Hazard Communication Standard. Per OSHA, "container" means any bag, barrel, bottle, box, can, cylinder, drum, reaction vessel, storage tank or the like that contains a hazardous chemical.

As soon as a chemical is placed in a container, it must be labeled, tagged or marked with the iden-

tity of the hazardous chemical(s) contained therein and appropriate hazard warnings that provide at least general information regarding the hazards of the chemicals. OSHA regulations do not specify exactly what needs to be on the label, but the following is an example of what would be considered appropriate information on a formaldehyde label:

## **Danger:** **Contains Formaldehyde**

Suspect cancer hazard. Vapor is harmful if inhaled or absorbed through the skin. Causes irritation to skin, eyes and respiratory tract. Strong sensitizer. May be fatal or cause blindness if swallowed. Flammable liquid and vapor.

An employer may use signs, placards or other such written materials in lieu of affixing labels to stationary process containers, as long as the alternative method identifies the containers to which it is applicable and it conveys the required information.

If you have any questions about pandemic influenza preparedness or any other health, safety or environmental issues, please contact me at 614-404-3384 or [barb\\_garrison@sandesolutions.net](mailto:barb_garrison@sandesolutions.net).

## Tiffin Pilot Continues Humanitarian Efforts with **Animal Rescue Flights**



Richard J. Traunero, owner of Traunero Funeral Home, Tiffin, and local pilot, recently joined forces with Pilots N Paws, a national organization whose Web site seeks to be a meeting place for those who rescue, shelter or foster animals and pilots and plane owners willing to assist with the transportation of animals. Pilots N Paws provides the environment in which those involved can come together in a common place and arrange or schedule rescue flights, overnight foster care or shelter and all other related activities.



Through the discussion board, those involved can exchange information about transports publicly so that they can set up an entire transport and share all information necessary to successfully accomplish the goal, and it also allows others to volunteer their efforts if they see help is needed to save animals.

"Pilots N Paws ground rescue volunteers and pilots do important work in transporting shelter animals to their new homes when ground transportation fails," Traunero says. "Or we can combine efforts with ground transportation, in order to get the rescued animals to their new forever homes."

Thousands of animals are euthanized because homes cannot be found for them. Those animals for which homes have been found sometimes cannot get to their new homes without the assistance of Pilots N Paws.

Traunero continues to also fly for Angel Flight, a humanitarian organization which helps to connect pilots with financially needy human patients in order for them to obtain diagnosis or treatment at distant locations.

Traunero has been a licensed pilot since 1992; holds an instrument rating, high performance and complex endorsements; and flies a variety of single-engine aircraft from the Seneca County Airport. He has amassed more than 800 hours of flight time from flights all over the United States.

"As long as I am able to help, I will. It is very rewarding," Traunero says.

More information is available at [www.angel-flight.org](http://www.angel-flight.org), [www.pilotsnpaws.org](http://www.pilotsnpaws.org) or [www.traunerofuneralhome.com](http://www.traunerofuneralhome.com).

# Pennsylvania Lawsuit May Have Implications for Ohio Funeral Directors

by T. Scott Gilligan, OFDA General Counsel



Scott Gilligan

A lawsuit that challenges more than a dozen requirements and restrictions in Pennsylvania's funeral licensing laws and regulations may have several important ramifications for the funeral profession in Ohio. Although most

of the restrictions that are under review in Pennsylvania do not apply in Ohio, several of them do. If these legal requirements and restrictions are overturned as unconstitutional in Pennsylvania, it would be highly likely they would soon be subject to court scrutiny in Ohio.

Which of the licensing requirements and restrictions being challenged in Pennsylvania also apply in Ohio? First and foremost is the Pennsylvania statute that requires a branch location of a funeral home to employ a full-time funeral supervisor. The full-time supervisor must be a licensed funeral director who is the registered supervisor of no more than one funeral home. This is similar to Ohio's requirement, found in Section 4717.06(B)(4) of the Revised Code, stating that each funeral home must be supervised by a funeral director who may not supervise more than one funeral home.

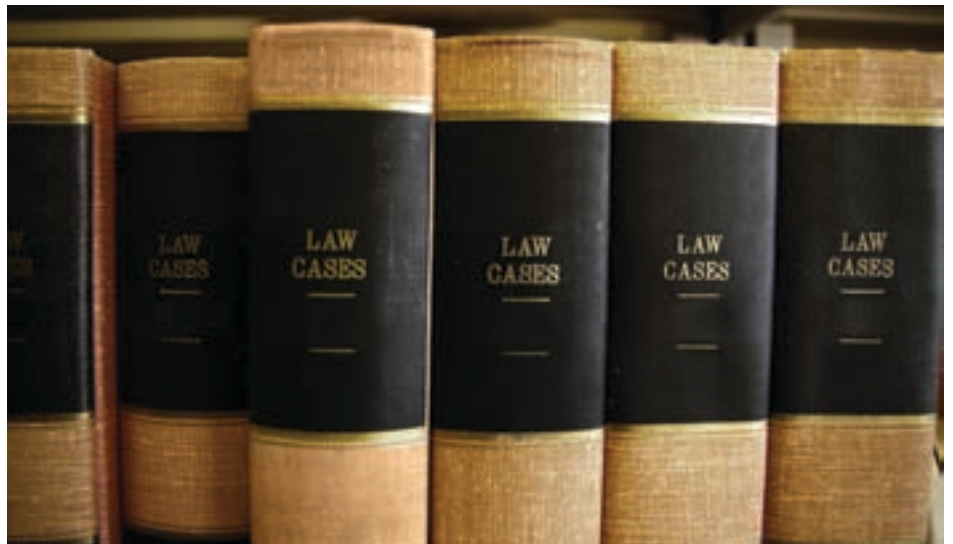
The Pennsylvania complaint, which is being brought by several funeral homes, cemeteries and crematories, alleges the state has no legitimate governmental interest in restricting the number of locations at which a licensed funeral director can serve as a supervisor. It points out a funeral home location may do as few as 15 funeral services a year, rendering a full-time supervisor position financially impossible. In the case of low-volume funeral homes, the complaint alleges there is no legitimate reason why a funeral director could not supervise two or more low-volume homes. The complaint alleges the requirement is unconstitutional because it is arbitrary and capricious and denies a funeral home owner the right to due process of law.

Another target of the Pennsylvania complaint, and one which is directly applicable to Ohio, is the state's requirement that funeral homes carry the name of the licensed funeral director who owns the funeral home. This is similar to ORC Sections 4717.06(B)(3) and 4717.11(B), which require an Ohio funeral home to be operated only under the name of the funeral director actually in charge of the funeral home.

The plaintiffs in the Pennsylvania case allege the name requirement violates the free-speech guarantees of the First Amendment. They also claim there is no valid governmental interest in requiring the funeral home to be operated only under the name of the funeral director.

a funeral home. This means crematories may not offer direct cremation services to consumers without having a funeral home license. Pennsylvania has a similar requirement, which the complaint alleges is not related to any legitimate government interest. The requirement is challenged as being both arbitrary and capricious and an undue restraint on the plaintiffs' free-speech and due-process rights.

A final issue, and a minor one the plaintiffs are unlikely to win, is a challenge to Pennsylvania's law allowing inspectors to enter a funeral home for an inspection without a search warrant. The plaintiffs claim this is a violation of their Fourth Amendment rights against unreasonable search and seizure. Ohio, as



Anticipating that the state will claim the name requirement is to prevent false and misleading advertising, the plaintiffs argue there are less-restrictive means for the state to accomplish that purpose without unduly restraining their First Amendment rights.

A third issue that is raised by the complaint could have significant implications for Ohio and how it licenses direct disposition companies. Currently, Ohio Board Regulation 4717-1-16(A)(1) requires any shipping service or direct disposition service to be licensed as

well as most states, has similar provisions that allow inspections without the necessity of first obtaining a search warrant.

While it is always difficult to challenge the constitutionality of licensing laws, some courts have been more receptive in the past few years to these types of lawsuits. For example, last year, a U.S. District Court overturned a Maryland licensing law prohibiting corporate ownership of funeral homes. The complaint in that case alleged the Maryland law was intended only to protect its existing funeral homes from out-

# Victims of Crime



of-state competition. However, showing the volatility surrounding these types of cases, the trial decision was later overturned by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, which found that Maryland had a legitimate state interest in requiring individual funeral directors to own funeral homes.

We have seen similar split verdicts on other funeral home licensing laws in the past several years. For example, in 2004, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit (which governs cases in Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee

## The plaintiffs in the Pennsylvania case allege the name requirement violates the free-speech guarantees of the First Amendment.

and Kentucky) overturned a Tennessee law requiring an individual to have a funeral director's license in order to sell a casket. The court held that the state of Tennessee could not identify a legitimate governmental interest that was promoted by this restriction, which the court found had been enacted simply to protect funeral homes from competition. However, several years later, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit upheld a similar Oklahoma law, which required a funeral director's license in order to sell a casket. Despite the split in the two appellate court decisions, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear the case.

OFDA will continue to watch the Pennsylvania case closely and keep members updated as it works its way through the trial and appeals. If members have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Scott Gilligan at 513-871-6332.

In society's very justifiable zeal to apprehend and convict those who commit violent crimes, it is easy to forget about the survivors of crime who are left behind to pick up the pieces. These survivors include thousands of Ohioans each year.

Just in 2008, about 40,000 Ohioans were victims of violent crimes, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Those crimes include murder, rape and aggravated assault.

Ohio supports many of these survivors through the Victims of Crime Reparations Fund. Since 1976, it has paid out more than \$300 million to victims.

Eligible to receive payment from this fund are those injured during a violent crime, the dependents of people killed in crimes or anyone who is responsible for a crime victim's finances, such as a parent or a guardian.

Payments may cover a number of different expenses, including:

- Medical and related expenses
- Counseling for victims and immediate family members of victims of homicide, sexual assault or domestic violence
- Wages lost because of the crime
- Crime-scene cleanup for personal security
- The cost to replace items taken as evidence
- Lost wages and travel expenses for family members of a deceased victim to attend court proceedings
- Financial support for dependents of a deceased victim
- Funeral and burial expenses

Total payments are limited to \$50,000, and payments cannot be made for pain and suffering or for stolen, damaged or lost property. The attorney general's office will not pay victims for expenses that can be covered by other sources, such as insurance.

Some people are not eligible for payment from the fund. They include:

- Anyone convicted of a felony offense within 10 years before the date of the crime or while the compensation application is pending
- Anyone convicted of child endangering or domestic violence within 10 years before the date of the crime or while the compensation application is pending
- Anyone who engaged in misconduct that caused or contributed to the injuries

Since taking office, Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray has been working to strengthen the fund and prevent it from running out of money, which has been a growing concern during the past few years. He recently spearheaded an effort, eventually joined by the nation's 49 other state attorneys general, to ask Congress to provide more money for victim service providers.

For specific questions about crime victim compensation, please call the attorney general's office at 800-582-2877. To apply for compensation, please visit [www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/victim](http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/victim).



**JOHN E. ALSPACH**, 76, of Van Wert, died Sunday, September 20. He was born March 9, 1933, in Van Wert, to the late Grace (Gamble) Alspach and Gordon Alspach. Survivors include three nieces, Jennifer Alspach of London, United Kingdom, Holly Cici of Dayton, Texas, and Darrien Tully of Aston, Pennsylvania; and a brother, Rodger L. (JoAnn “Grif”) Alspach of Annapolis, Maryland. He was preceded in death by a brother, David Alspach.

John was a funeral director and former owner of Alspach-Gearhart Funeral Home, Van Wert. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church, Van Wert, and of the church choir. He was past president of the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross, Van Wert Chapter; and he was a 50-year, life member of Van Wert Elks Lodge 1197 and a member of the Van Wert Masonic Lodge. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army; he attended Miami University, Oxford, Ohio; and he graduated from Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science, Cincinnati, Ohio. Preferred memorial is Van Wert Area Inpatient Hospice Center.

**MARGARET L. BECKER**, 70, of Struthers, died Tuesday, July 28, at her residence from complications of Alzheimer’s disease.

Margy leaves her husband of nearly 54 years, Dan; her daughters, Kim Rachel and her husband, Rob Horyn, of Nantucket, Massachusetts; Kandace Ann and her husband, David Hagendorn, and Kelly Louise Becker, all of Poland; Kate Marie Becker and her husband, Darell

Hammond, of Washington, D.C.; her son, Daniel Hazen Davidson and his wife, Lisa, of Struthers; her sisters, Mary Ann Enders of Mars, Pennsylvania, and Caroline Williams of Medina, Ohio; her brothers, the Rev. Fred Trucksis of Warren and John Trucksis and his wife, Darlene, of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina; her grandchildren, Rachel, Katherine and William Horyn; David and Anna Hagendorn; Robert and Frederick Rumberg; and Ellen and Hazen Becker; her closest friend, Peg Jacobec Pavlov; and Margy’s wonderful caregivers who served over the years, Judy Denmeade, Geri Page, Maggie Rosen, Norma Smith and Regina Yurick.

The family asks that material tributes be made in the form of contributions to the Margy and Dan Becker Research Memorial Fund at University Hospital Memory and Aging Center, 3619 Park East Drive, Beachwood, OH 44122.

**ROBERT J. BRUCKER SR.**, 84, of Newark, died in the Selma Markowitz Hospice Care Center, surrounded by his loving family on August 1. He was born in Newark, Ohio, on November 1, 1924, to the late Everett and Genevieve (Willey) Brucker.

Bob was a graduate of Newark High School and the Cleveland School of Mortuary Science. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

Bob co-founded Brucker & Kishler Funeral Home in 1952, was past president of the Newark Jaycees and was a former member of many

other organizations. He was a past member of Ohio District 13 Funeral Directors, the Ohio Funeral Directors Association and the National Funeral Directors Association. The Ohio Funeral Directors Association honored him for his 50 years of funeral service to this community. He was a member of Northside Baptist Church, where he previously served as a deacon and taught Sunday school for many years. He was a licensed lay pastor and spoke at many area churches through the years. He also taught Coral Ridge Evangelism Explosion at area churches. He loved camping and his many trips to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

He is survived by his wife of almost 65 years, Margaret K. "Peg" Brucker; his children, R. James (Linda) Brucker Jr. of Newark and Sara M. (Terry) Culberson of Duluth, Georgia; his grandchildren, Tracy (Jim) Brewster, Leslea (Rob) Calvert, Jason (Allison) Corbin and Mike Corbin; his brother, Clarence (Jean) Brucker of Oak Park, Illinois; his sister, Freda Moody of Newark; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son-in-law, Mark Corbin, and a brother-in-law, Ralph Moody.

The family requests contributions to Hospice of Central Ohio, 2269 Cherry Valley Road, Newark, OH 43055, and Heartbeats of Licking County, 336 East Main Street, Newark, OH 43055, or your favorite charity.

**DAVID L. COX**, 63, of Beaver, died Wednesday, August 26. He was born March 19, 1946, in Latham, Ohio, a son of the late Claude and Judy Elizabeth (Skaggs) Cox. On July 17, 1970, he was united in marriage to Cheryl L. Ross, who survives. He was a 1978 graduate of the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science and was self-employed at Cox Funeral Home for 31 years.

Along with his wife, he is survived by two sons, Bo (Rena) Cox of Lucasville and John Ralston (Eve) Cox; two daughters, Robin (Richard) Lavigne of Waterboro, Maine, and Angie Ralston of Bainbridge; one sister, Rose Everhart of Greenfield; four brothers, Albert (Nancy) Cox, Phillip (Sandy) Cox, Noah (Alta) Cox and Eric (Connie) Cox; and eight grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Delcie Knisley and Louise Shoemaker; and two brothers, Willard Cox and Richard Cox.

**DONALD E. EDGINGTON**, 74, of Hillsboro, Ohio, passed away Sunday, October 11, 2009, at University Hospital in Cincinnati. He was born Sunday, September 8, 1935, in Highland County, Ohio, a son of the late Vernon Edgington and the late Jessie Young Edgington. Don was a longtime funeral director in the area and had served as a member and president on the Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors of Ohio. He was a member of the Mowrystown United Methodist Church, the Sardinia Masonic Lodge #254 F. & A.M., the Valley of Cincinnati Scottish Rite, the Hillsboro Chapter O.E.S. #44, the Highland County Senior Citizens and the Hillsboro Elks Lodge.

Surviving are his wife, Doris J. Edgington, whom he married March 10, 1956; his daughter, Gina (Rick) Earley of Hillsboro, Ohio; his son, Craig (Sonya) Edgington of Wilmington, Ohio; and four grandchildren, Paige Earley, Ryne Earley, Whitney Earley and Jonathan Edgington. Also surviving are two brothers, Kenneth (Helen) Edgington of Milford, Ohio,

and Larry (Chris) Edgington of Orange Park, Florida; one sister, Barbara (Richard) Cochran of Loveland, Ohio; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Highland District Hospital Foundation or the Highland County Society for Children and Adults.

**PATRICIA A. FREDERICK (NÉE LOGAN)**, age 85, passed away peacefully at her home on Monday, October 19, 2009. Beloved and cherished wife for 65 years of Paul E. Frederick. Devoted mother of Pat (Ed) Rivera, Sandy (Barry) Schuster, Paula (Bob) Heinecke, Lynn (Denny) Yockey and Beth (Jim) Schoenlaub. Loving and proud grandmother of Eddie (Elizabeth) Rivera, Tricia (Mark) Hoffmann, Michael (Jodi) Rivera, Ann (Mike) Hug, Katie (fiancé Russ Litt) Rivera, Paul (Cornelia) Schuster, Dawn (David) Ravenscraft, Danielle (Pat) McCarthy, Tracy (Keith) Jones, Rob (Tracy) Heinecke, Scott (Tracy) Heinecke, Kari (Michael) Donaldson, Todd (fiancée Alison Maas) Heinecke, Renee (Ryan) Reardon, Victor Yockey, Matthew Yockey, Sarah (Scott) Kist, Elizabeth Schoenlaub, Emily Schoenlaub and the late Jimmy Schoenlaub. Great-grandmother of Logan, Alex, Gabe, Spencer, Marissa, Madison, Julia, Nick, Abbey, Chase, Layne, Miles, Benjamin, Jacob, Gabi, Austin, Isaac, Tierney, Reid, Rhet, Ryne, Allison, Patrick, Maddox, Avery, Aimee, Robby, Megan, Tyler, Max, Kaitlyn, Brandon, Grace, Shawn, Hope, Ethan, Jackson and Luke. Sister of Margy (late Bill) Harrison and the late Gene (Barbara "Hoogie") Logan.

Patricia was a member of Regina High School Alumni, St. Mary Ladies Society (St. James), St. James Seniors, V.F.W. Post #7340 Auxiliary, D.A.V. Auxiliary (life member) and the Catholic Order of Foresters.

Memorials may be made to the James F. Schoenlaub Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o LaSalle High School, 3091 North Bend Road, Cincinnati, OH 45239.

**MILDRED S. GALE (NÉE BUDNIAK)**; age 100, has died. She was the mother of Dotty Vodrazka and the mother-in-law of Jack Vodrazka of Vodrazka Funeral Home in Independence, Ohio. She was the beloved wife of the late William F. Gale; the loving mother of Doris Porter (Thomas), Bill Gale (Toni) and Dottie Vodrazka (Jack); the dear grandmother of 11; the great-grandmother of 16; the beloved sister of the following deceased: Leonard Budniak, Marie Portiva, Rita Werstak and Dan Budnick; and a beloved aunt, great-aunt and great-great-aunt.

Family suggests contributions to Cornerstone of Hope, 5905 Brecksville Road, Independence, OH 44131, or Hospice of the Western Reserve, 300 East 185th Street, Cleveland, OH 44119.

**THOMAS CHARLES HOENING**, 71, of West Tiffin Street, Fostoria, passed away suddenly at 9:15 p.m. Saturday, August 29, at Fostoria Community Hospital with his family at his side.

Tom was born December 6, 1937, in Coldwater, to the late Baltus and Lova (Tice) Hoening. He married Constance "Connie" L. Linneman May 13, 1961, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, Montezuma, and she survives in Fostoria.

Also surviving are a son, Terrence (Barbara) Hoening of Fostoria; a daughter, Victoria (Christopher) Sapp of Southgate, Kentucky; and three grandchildren, Melissa and Terrence Hoening and Anthony Sapp. Tom was preceded in death by five brothers, Bill, Jim, Bob, John and

Joe; and twin infant brothers Tom and Charles. He was the youngest of the siblings and missed their companionship these last years.

Tom was the owner and operator of Hoening Funeral Home in Fostoria from 1963 until the time of a disabling stroke in 1990, during which time his faith and love for family grew unconditionally. He enjoyed the simplest things: cleaning and waxing his car, keeping his shoes detailed, watching Cincinnati Reds and New York Yankees baseball games and listening to his favorite baseball announcer, Joe Morgan.

Tom was a member of St. Wendelin Catholic Church, a member of the Third- and Fourth-Degree Knights of Columbus, Fostoria and a former member of the Ohio Funeral Directors Association and National Funeral Directors Association. He attended Villa Madonna College in Covington, Kentucky, and was a 1961 graduate of the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science.

Tom loved serving his community and church, and during these past 19 years of physical challenges, he was so grateful for the opportunities to share moments and meals with family and friends.

Memorials are suggested to St. Wendelin Church and schools or the Sisters of Notre Dame.

**PAT HOLLINGSHEAD**, 88, of Urbana, passed away Saturday, September 26, in Mercy McAuley Center, Urbana. He was born February 27, 1921, in Napoleon, Ohio, the son of E. Pat and Alta (Durham) Hollingshead. Pat was the former owner and operator of Hollingshead Funeral Home, Urbana, Ohio.

He served his country in the U.S. Army in north Africa, Italy, France and Germany, working in a field hospital unit. He was a member of the Urbana United Methodist Church. He also was a member of the Urbana Rotary Club with 36 years of perfect attendance, a 60-year member of the Ohio Funeral Directors and a life member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign War, where he was a past president. Pat was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Harmony # 8 F & A.M., Urbana Chapter #34 Royal Arch Masons, Urbana Council #59 Royal 7 Select Masons, Raper Commandery # 19 Knights Templar, Valley of Toledo Scottish Rite C and Champaign County Antioch Shrine AAONMS. He was past president of the Champaign County Heart Association and member emeritus of the Champaign County Memorial Foundation.

He is survived by his loving wife, Betty Jane (Miller) Hollingshead; his daughters, Cindi Smith and Sandi Lewis, all of Urbana; four grandchildren, Branden P. Cobb, Derek T. Cobb and Sara E. Trenor, all of Urbana, and Molly E. (Kent) Haroz of Dublin; his brother, Ralph (Ann) Hollingshead of West Unity, Ohio; and his sister, Bette Jane Manner of Tequesta, Florida.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Della (Critchfield) Hollingshead; his three sisters, Bernadine, Geraldine and Marion; and his two brothers, Bill and Donald.

Memorial contributions may be made in Pat's memory to the Urbana Paramedic Fund, P.O. Box 637, Urbana, OH, or to the Cancer Association of Champaign County, P.O. Box 38125, Urbana, OH 43078.

**NANCY LOUISE (TRAUNERO) KISER**, 56, of Tiffin, died Sunday, September 20, at St. Vincent-Mercy Medical Center, Toledo.

She was born November 18, 1952, in Tiffin, to Robert Joseph and Lois Jean (Smith) Traunero. Nancy is the mother of Erica Kiser, a licensed funeral director in Ohio now working in Georgia, and the sister of Richard Traunero, owner of Traunero Funeral Home in Tiffin, Ohio.

Her mother died March 1, 2008, and her father survives in Tiffin. On June 29, 1974, she married Jerome Kiser, and he survives. Also surviving are two daughters, Monica (Jason) Dawicke and Erica Kiser; two sons, Gregory Kiser and Matthew Kiser; three sisters, Susan (Robert) Rupert, Janet (Dr. Steven) Fudge and Marla (James) Lang; three brothers, John (Patricia) Traunero, Paul (Richarda) Traunero and Richard (Andrea) Traunero; and many nieces and nephews. Nancy was preceded in death by her mother and an infant son, Jason Alan Kiser.

She was a 1971 graduate of Columbian High School and a 1975 graduate of Notre Dame College. She earned her master's degree from Heidelberg University. She was an administrative assistant at Mercy Hospital, a teacher at Calvert High School, a visiting teacher for Tiffin City Schools and a teacher at Columbian High School, and she was attendance officer for the Tiffin City Schools. Nancy was a lifelong member of St. Mary Catholic Church, where she served as a lector and a eucharistic minister. She was very active in many civic and community organizations. She was a very devoted and loving mother to her children.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Matthew Kiser Scholarship Fund or to a charity of the donor's choice in care of Traunero Funeral Home.

**CECIL M. "LEE" "BUTCH" LEMASTERS**, 69, of Benwood, West Virginia, died Monday, September 28 at home. Born in Bellaire, Ohio, on March 29, 1940, Lee was the son of the late Cecil "Jake" and Evelyn Hudson Lemasters. Mr. Lemasters was the father of OFDA member Poul Lemasters of Rosenacker and Associates, Cincinnati.

He was a former employee of Blaw Knox Foundry and was the controller for Centre Foundry in Warwood. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. What Lee enjoyed most in life was his family, his work and playing golf.

In addition to his parents, Lee was preceded in death by two sisters, Charlotte Tucker and Cheryl Kreiter Gockstetter. Surviving are his wife, Joan Schneider Yurkovitch Lemasters; one son, Poul Lemasters and his wife, Teresa, of Cincinnati, Ohio; one daughter, AnneMarie Volansky and her husband, Joe, of Masontown, Pennsylvania; three stepdaughters, Cheryl Kibert and her husband, Greg, of Glen Dale, West Virginia; Cathy Yurkovitch of Pataskala, Ohio, and Lisa Yurkovitch of Sherrard, West Virginia; one stepson, Brian Yurkovitch and his wife, Paula, of Pataskala, Ohio; two brothers, Larry Lemasters and his wife, Debbie, of Bellaire, Ohio, and James "Jimmy" Lemasters and his wife, Cindy, of Jacobsburg, Ohio; six grandchildren, Kirsten Volansky, Maxwell and Chloe Lemasters, Garrett and Beth Yurkovitch and R.J. Kibert; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to Valley Hospice, 10686 State Route 150, Rayland, OH 43943.

**BILLY VINTON LIEURANCE**, 81, of Wilmington, formerly of Sabina, died Friday, October 16, 2009, with his family by his side. He was born May 18, 1928, in Leesburg, a son of the late Harry Clifford and Mildred (Rhonemus) Lieurance.

After being raised on the family farm, Billy began a 43-year career in banking in Leesburg in 1950 and later retired in 1993 as president and chief executive officer of the Sabina Bank after 37 years of service. After his retirement, he remained as chairman of the board of the bank. He was a member of the Sabina United Methodist Church and a 50-year member of the Leesburg Masonic Lodge #78. He was a loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather.

On February 19, 1950, in Leesburg, he married his wife of nearly 60 years, Juanita (Dye) Lieurance, who survives. He is also survived by a daughter, Melinda Sue and her husband, Bruce A. Miller; two sons, Brian Lee Lieurance and his wife, Pamela, and Bruce Alan Lieurance and his wife, Jill; a sister, Dorothy L. Smith; two brothers, Mark and his wife, Novella Lieurance, and Max and his wife, Mary Jane Lieurance. He was "Poppo" to eight grandchildren, Sarah Elizabeth (William H.) Creach, Matthew James (Ashley) Miller Lees Creek, Andrew David (Jenny) Miller, Ryann Elizabeth Lieurance, Bridget Alise Lieurance, Bryston Nicole Lieurance, Brittany Jane (Tom Rowlands) Wilso and Brandon Lee Wilson; three great-grandchildren, Makenzie Sue Creach, William Howard Creach Jr. and Mason James Miller; two brothers-in-law, William (Elena) Dye and Donald Dye; a special niece, Janice (Robert) Van Pelt; as well as several other nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother-in-law, Maynard Smith.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wilmington Nursing and Rehabilitation Activities Fund, 75 Hale Street, Wilmington, OH 45177.

**ANGELA M. MAZZARELLA**, 45, died on August 20. She was the beloved wife of Brian Krulik; dearest daughter of the late Virginia (née Ripepi) and Anthony Mazzarella Sr.; dear daughter of Joanne; loving sister of Anna Maria Masterson (Larry), Donna, Robert, Regina Kramer (Brian), Mary Jo (Michael Reminick), Julia Rutkowski (Joseph), Tony Jr. (Jillian), John, Bob Stultz (Tara) and David Stultz; and the beloved aunt, great-aunt, and dear friend of many.

Angela was a member of the St. Rose Young Adult Club, I.S.D.A. and the Sacred Heart Sodality of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church.

The family suggests contributions to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 6928 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44102, or The Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, 4120 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44103.

**JOAN K. MCCLURKIN**, 74, died Sunday, October 4, 2009, at her home. She was born July 31, 1935, in Niles, the daughter of the late Joseph P. and Dorothy A. (Lingeman) McNamara.

Joan graduated from St. Elizabeth School of Nursing in 1956. She was active for many years with the Red Cross Blood Drive in the Girard area and was a member of St. Rose Church in Girard. She married Thomas J. McClurkin May 11, 1963, and he passed away May 28, 1994. She is survived by three children, Robert J. (Karen) McClurkin, Patrick J. McClurkin and Erin K. (Phillip) Kachersky, all of Girard; four brothers and sisters, Susan (Ralph) Kelly of Canton, Dennis (Chris) McNamara of Niles, Patricia (Richard) Malone of Liberty and Katherine McNamara of Girard; and eight grandchildren, Grace, Kathryn, Thomas, John, Rose, Daniel, Patrick and Colin.

Donations may be made to St. Rose Angel Fund in Girard or St. Stephen Angel Fund in Niles.

**MARTHA T. MILNER**, 91, of Morristown, died Tuesday, July 14, 2009. She was born May 7, 1918, in Morristown, Ohio, a daughter of the late Harley Barr and Dorothy Moore Barr.

Martha and her husband Harry were retired owners of the Barr-Milner Funeral Home of Morristown, Ohio.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Milner.

Surviving are daughters Marilyn (Mickey) (Samuel) Prather, Nancy (Dave) Tacosik and Joni (Dirk) Davis; a son, Jack (Cindy) Milner; grandchildren Philip and Jonathan Prather; Scott Tacosik; Jennifer Stevens; Matt, Mike and Adam Davis; Stephanie and Missy Milner; 13 great-grandchildren; a sister, Mary Kinney; and a niece, Sharon Heslop.



**JOHN R. POZNIK**, age 84, has died. Mr. Poznik is the father-in-law of Steve Ripepi, A. Ripepi & Sons Funeral Home, Middleburg Heights.

He was the beloved husband of the late Jane (née Dolenc). Loving father of John, Jeannette Ripepi (Stephen) and James (Cathy). Cherished grandfather of Jenna and Stephen Ripepi and Calvin, Brent and Travis Poznik. Brother of the late Florence Ferencak and Marge DiPadova. Dearest brother-in-law of Matthew Dolenc (Lillian). Special uncle of Yvonne, Christine and Laurie Dolenc. Also survived by nieces, nephews and many dear friends. Former owner of Re-Nu Auto Body and a U.S. Navy World War II veteran.

**FRANK J. SAVAGE JR.**, age 79, of Massillon, passed away August 22. Frank was born August 3, 1930, in North Adams, Massachusetts, to the late Francis J. and Viola (Wing) Savage.

Following high school, he entered the U.S. Army and served in Korea with the 2nd Infantry Division, 2nd Medical Battalion, and was a prisoner of war for 18 months. Frank was awarded the Bronze Star. He was a 1967 graduate of the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. Frank had been employed at several funeral homes and owned and operated the Frank J. Savage Funeral Home in Navarre for a number of years. In 1983, he started as inspector/investigator for the Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors of Ohio and retired in 2008. His memberships include: life member of V.F.W., Navarre Post #5047, life member of Elks, past president of the Cleveland Embalmers Association and a charter member of the Ohio Investigators Association.

In addition to his parents, a sister, Nora Scerbo, preceded him in death. Frank will be deeply missed by his wife and soul mate, Carol (Hofstetter) Savage, with whom he shared 20 years of marriage. He has four children: Cheri Jesse, Russell and Ann Savage, James M. Savage and Scott and Susan Savage; a stepdaughter, Tonya Vincent; and a stepson, Glenn "Chip" and Christine Vincent. There are 11 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and a best buddy, Charles Wisby (a fellow State Board inspector).

**ROBERT W. "BOB" SHOEMAKER**, age 78, of Columbus, passed away Monday, August 24, at Forest Hills Alzheimers Convalescent Center. Preceded in death by son Robert W. Shoemaker. Survived by his wife of 53 years, Arlene; his children, Tina (Joe) Ciacchi; Margaret (Tom Clark) Shoemaker and James W. "Jay" Shoemaker; his grandchildren, Melissa, Stephen and John Paul Ciacchi, Robert W. and Jessica Shoemaker and Matthew and Merritt Weirick; his brothers, George and John Shoemaker; his sisters, Eleanor Garman and Shirley Dunsieith; numerous nieces and nephews; and his special friends, John Love, Don Salsburey and Mark Hamann. He was a member of St. James the Less Catholic Church.

He was the owner of Shoemaker Funeral Home for 40 years and was a licensed funeral director and embalmer for over 50 years. Bob was a veteran of the U.S. Army and served in the Korean War. Bob was a special deputy for the Delaware County Sheriff's Department from 1973 to 1979 and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office from 1979 to 2003. Bob was a graduate of Ruppert School of Auctioneering. Bob was a member of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels since 1994. He attended Wilmington College and Western Reserve University. He was a graduate of Cincinnati College of Embalming and a 50-year member of Linden Lodge #637 F. & A.M., Aladdin

Shrine Temple, Order of the Yellow Dog, Chow Houn Kennel. He was a life member of Law Enforcement Alliance of America and the NRA. Bob was a member of Amvets Linden Post #89, VFW Post #4719, American Legion Post #888, Ancient Order of Hibernia and K. of C. #3727 and #809.

Contributions may be made in Bob's memory to St. James the Less Catholic Church or Columbus Alzheimer's Association.

**MARY ANN SYNK (NÉE BUSCH)**, died Friday, August 7. Mary was the sister of John Busch and aunt to Mark and Jim Busch of Busch Funeral & Crematory Services, Parma.

She was the beloved wife of John; the loving mother of Gregory M. Avis (Anne), Todd F. Avis (Sandy) and Susan L. Kuhns (Paul); the step-mother of John Synk Jr. (Jane), Maureen Karlstad (John), Catherine Necroto, Tim Synk, Kevin Synk (Andrea) and Tricia Lorince (Dave); the dear grandmother of 33; the great-grandmother of four; the sister of John M. Busch (Marcy); the daughter of the late J. Milton and Dorothy M. (née Gerhan) Busch; and the dear aunt and great-aunt of several nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be forwarded to the American Cancer Society, 10501 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44106, or Malachi House, 2810 Clinton Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44113.

**FRANKLIN D. VAN HOVE**, 75, of Ashland, died Wednesday, September 23, 2009, at the Cleveland Clinic following a lengthy illness. Born August 10, 1934, in Tiltonville, Ohio, he was the son of Paul and Sophia (Oleanar) Van Hove.

He received a bachelor of science degree in music from the University of Michigan in 1956 and a bachelor of science in music education from Youngstown State University in 1958. He graduated from the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science in 1963 and owned and operated funeral homes in Tiltonville and Brilliant, Ohio. Frank purchased the Gilbert Funeral Home in Ashland, Ohio, in 1983 and retired from there in 2003.

He was a founding member of the Ohio Funeral Directors Association Public Education Committee. He was recognized in 1985 for serving as board chairman of the Martins Ferry's East Ohio Regional Hospital's Board of Trustees. He was a founding member of Hospice of North Central Ohio, serving on the Board of Directors for many years, and was a former member of the Board of Directors of Samaritan Hospital. Frank was also involved in many community and civic organizations in the Ohio Valley and Ashland during his career.

Surviving are his wife of 53 years, Barbara A. (Brown) Van Hove, whom he married August 25, 1956; a daughter, Shelly (Jim) Woode; three sons, Dr. Shawn Van Hove, Frank T. (Michelle) Van Hove and Randall (Tami) Van Hove; eight grandchildren, Taylor, Abby and Connor Van Hove; Michael Woode; Trent Johnson and Blake Van Hove; and Joseph and David Van Hove; and a sister, Florence Van Hove. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of North Central Ohio, 1605 Dauch Drive, Ashland, OH 44805, or to the Ashland County Cancer Association, 380 East 4th Street, Ashland, OH 44805.



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# PIMS Holds 139th Commencement Exercise

Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science (PIMS) held its 139th commencement exercise on Friday, September 11, 2009, at the Calvary Episcopal Church. The graduating class, their families and friends were welcomed to the formal cap-and-gown ceremony by PIMS President Eugene C. Ogrodnik. The commencement address was delivered by Mr. John D. Reed Sr., who delivered an inspirational address entitled, "And You Think It's Over?" Mr. Reed, a PIMS alumnus, is currently president of the National Funeral Directors Association and owns and operates the Dodd & Reed Funeral Home, Inc. in Webster Springs, West Virginia, and Adams-Reed Funeral Home, Inc. in Cowen, West Virginia. Mr. Reed was presented a plaque by PIMS President Eugene Ogrodnik in recognition of his outstanding and devoted service to the funeral industry.

Candidates to receive the diploma in embalming and funeral directing are: Analise Bahneman of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Teresa Bell of Mingo Junction, Ohio; Jenna Buechele of East Brady, Pennsylvania; George Danielson-Sullivan, *magna cum laude*, of Bristow, Virginia; Alan Dodson of Altoona, Pennsylvania; Emily Fecek, *magna cum laude*, of Erie, Pennsylvania; Rynell Guy of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania; Kristine Haas of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; John Harris of Johnstown, Pennsylvania; Ronald Healey of Connoquenessing, Pennsylvania; Wayne Heavilin of Freeport, Ohio; Tonya Jenkins, class treasurer, of Homestead, Pennsylvania; Joseph Kramer of Verona, Pennsylvania; Michael Pomante of Owosso, Michigan; Timothy Schoonover, class president, of Philippi, West Virginia; John Snyder of Irwin, Pennsylvania; Beth Stefkovich of Avella, Pennsylvania; and Katy White of Warren, Ohio.

Candidates to receive the associate in specialized technology degree, funeral service arts and sciences, are: Kimberly Baker, class vice president, of Salem, Ohio; Caitlin Carpinello

of Hastings, Pennsylvania; Joshua DiLuzio of Oakdale, Connecticut; Bradley Duffy of Bedford, Pennsylvania; Rachel Dwyer, class representative, *summa cum laude*, of Dillsburg, Pennsylvania; Stephanie Geer of Canton, Ohio; Alisha Guckes of West Homestead, Pennsylvania; Chontel Harris, *cum laude*, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; John Hersch of Erie, Pennsylvania; Terri Johnson, *cum laude*, of Uniontown, Pennsylvania; Jennifer Keopka, *magna cum laude*, of Erie Pennsylvania; Matthew McVicker of Johnstown, Pennsylvania; Marguerite Rinn, class secretary, *cum laude*, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Andrew Slater of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Samantha Speicher of Dalton, Ohio; Timothy Sullivan, *cum laude*, of Frackville, Pennsylvania; Benjamin Tate of Jamestown, Pennsylvania; Leah Thompson of Scottsdale, Pennsylvania; and Adam Winegardner of Schellsburg, Pennsylvania.

Graduates receiving the associate in specialized business degree, funeral service management, are: James Billick of Monessen, Pennsylvania; Daniel Crist of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania; Krista Cummins of Akron, Ohio; Kevin Drobish of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Jessica Hayden of Warren, Pennsylvania; Valerie Long of North Braddock, Pennsylvania; Amber Quinn of Chester, West Virginia; Christopher Rehberg of Inverness, Florida; Garry Richter of Uniontown, Pennsylvania; Daniel Shingledecker of Clarion, Pennsylvania; David Szewczak of New Kensington, Pennsylvania; Anthony Volpe of DuBois, Pennsylvania; Nina Wright of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Cassandra Zola of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Special awards were also presented at the commencement. The Memorial Award was presented to Tonya Jenkins, who was chosen by her classmates as the student who, through qualities of leadership, professional conduct and good citizenship, best typifies the ideals

of the student body. The John Rebol Award was presented to Rachel Dwyer, who had maintained the highest scholastic average for the school year 2008-2009. The William J. Musmanno Memorial Award was presented to Jenna Buechele in recognition of her outstanding ability, attitude, commitment and achievement in the clinical setting. The Pierce Chemical/Royal Bond Award was presented to Marguerite Rinn in recognition of her outstanding ability, commitment, attitude and achievement in the areas of restorative art and cosmetology. On hand to present the award was Michael J. Kuruc, representative from the Pierce Chemicals/Royal Bond company. Mr. Kuruc presented Marguerite with a plaque and a complete cosmetic kit.

Ten percent of the graduates received the Mu Sigma Alpha Award, which is the honorary society established by the National Association of Colleges of Mortuary Science and gives recognition to those students who have displayed outstanding merit in scholarship and who have conducted themselves as good citizens of the schools they attended. The recipients of the Mu Sigma Alpha Award are: Kimberly Baker, Rachel Dwyer, Emily Fecek, Tonya Jenkins and Timothy Sullivan.

Mr. David Miller of Thiel College was also on hand to present five graduates with the PIMS/Thiel co-operative bachelor of arts degree; they are: Joshua DiLuzio, Stephanie Geer, Jennifer Keopka, Joseph Kramer and Samantha Speicher.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Class President Timothy Schoonover gave his closing farewell remarks, and classmate Stephanie Geer lead the congregation in the traditional singing of "America the Beautiful."

Congratulations to all PIMS graduates, and best of wishes in funeral service.



# PIMS Students Contribute to the Children's Institute



From left to right: PIMS Dean of Faculty and Students Joe Marsaglia; PIMS Class 139 President Tim Schoonover; PIMS faculty member M. Roger Walker; Children's Institute President and CEO David Miles; Class 139 Treasurer Tonya Jenkins; and Class 140 Representative Brittany Senatore

Students from Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science (PIMS) recently presented a check to David Miles, president and CEO of the Children's Institute of Pittsburgh. Also on hand to receive the contribution was Michele Mehal, development manager. On hand to present

the check were PIMS Dean of Faculty and Students Joseph Marsaglia, faculty member M. Roger Walker, PIMS Class 139 President Tim Schoonover, Class 139 Treasurer Tonya Jenkins and Class 140 Representative Brittany Senatore. PIMS students were able to make the contribution from fundraisers and contributions they collected during the school year. The students also provide an annual Easter and Halloween party for the children and patients at the Institute.

As part of their commitment to community projects, PIMS students also sponsor an annual Christmas food drive for the needy, and, in addition to the contribution to the Children's Institute, the students have presented checks to SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) Alliance of Pittsburgh, the American Cancer Society and Animal Friends. The administration of PIMS is proud of its students for their initiative in extracurricular activities.



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