## Impact Connection Gratitude









2024 IMPACT REPORT









#### Dear Friends,

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with deep gratitude for the generosity and dedication of our incredible community of supporters. Your commitment has made a lasting impact, allowing us to continue our mission of lifting up grieving communities by investing in people and programs that strengthen funeral service.

As the late Tom Johnson (who deservedly received the Foundation's 2024 Distinguished Service Award) always said, "It's about relationships." In funeral service, we rely on one another and are connected by a unique and essential profession in service of our communities. The support, comfort, and guidance you provide to the families you serve are essential.

Similarly, our work at the Foundation would not be possible without the unwavering support of stakeholders like you. Your contributions ensure that we can provide resources and educational opportunities that benefit our entire profession in service of others.

#### **Because of You: Impact, Connection, Gratitude**

Thanks to your generosity, 2024 was a year filled with meaningful impact, lasting connections, and deep gratitude. Together, we:

- ••••• Created impact and opened doors for nearly 300 individuals to grow and lead in their field by awarding scholarships to 299 funeral service students and professionals.
- Distributed nearly 11,000 copies of the Foundation's resources, including Youth and Funerals and When a Child Dies, to support funeral homes and other organizations.
- •••• Built connections at the Funeral Service Foundation Golf Classic, where 130+ attendees gathered at TPC Louisiana and raised more than \$167,000 for our mission.
- •••• Honored a legacy at our Annual Donor Reception, where we celebrated Tom Johnson as the 2024 Distinguished Service Award winner and raised more than \$130,000 to establish the Tom Johnson Memorial Scholarship.

On behalf of my fellow Board of Trustees, committee members and volunteers, I extend my heartfelt appreciation for your dedication and belief in our mission. As we look to the future, let us continue to lean on one another, knowing that together, we can make an even greater impact.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with us. We look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the year ahead.

Held

With deepest gratitude,

John Heald

2024-2025 Foundation Chair



#### 2024-25 Funeral Service Foundation Board of Trustees

BOTTOM ROW (L-R): Leili McMurrough, NFDA Liaison Dan Ford, Immediate Past Chair Mark Krause, Chair John Heald, Chair-elect Jeff Smith, Treasurer David Falconer, Kathy Kelley.

TOP ROW (L-R): Bryant Hightower, Tyler Anderson, Carmalita March-Harris, Lisa Baue, John Faulk, Will Bischoff, NFDA CEO Christine Pepper, Matt Outcalt, Jimmy Lucas, Tim Schramm, Jenn Parvin, Jimmy Altmeyer.

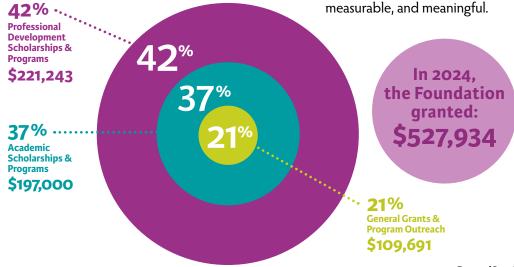
NOT PICTURED: W. Ashley Cozine, David Hernandez, Todd Lumbard, Thomas Pontone.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS			
	2024	2023	2022
Total Assets	\$13,131,992	\$11,940,325	\$10,497,280
Total Investment Earnings	\$1,093,765	\$1,187,470	(\$1,663,421)
Operating Expenses	\$402,518	\$441,817	\$503,765

#### **Financial Stewardship** & Outcomes

The Board of Trustees comprises dedicated volunteer leaders from across the profession who value their role in thoughtfully managing donor contributions and overseeing the Foundation's endowment.

Each trustee is a passionate and generous champion of the Foundation's mission, and committed to achieving results that are clear, measurable, and meaningful.









## THE FUNERAL SERVICE FOUNDATION GOES TO CANADA!

## Humber Polytechnic Visit

In April 2024, former
Foundation Chair and
Trustee Allan Cole and
Foundation Executive
Director Jedd Lapid visited
Humber Polytechnic in
Ontario to meet with students, faculty, and staff

of its Funeral Service Program.

The Foundation funded a grant of more than \$135,000 for resiliency training support for students in funeral services programs. Humber faculty is working to share its findings regarding the resiliency pro-

gram with other educational institutions.

In recognition of this grant, the Foundation received Humber's Medal of Gratitude for making a meaningful difference in the lives of students.





## Student Day at MacKinnon & Bowes

On this trip up north, Allan Cole, owner and president of MacKinnon & Bowes Ltd., hosted more than 100 students and faculty from three funeral service schools in Canada at his headquarters. Students were able to participate in practical learnings that covered phone etiquette, shipping remains, and driving hearses and limousines in formal processions led by the Toronto Police Service traffic squad.

Foundation Executive Director Jedd Lapid spoke to students about the Foundation's resources and scholarship program, and encouraged students to apply.



#### Strengthening **Funeral Service Through** Recruitment

In 2024, the Foundation supported a research study conducted by McKee Wallwork that focused on staff recruitment. Along with staff retention, recruit-

ment has emerged as one of the most significant challenges facing the funeral profession. This crossindustry study will explore the perspectives of today's workforce and provide actionable data that can inform recruitment strategies within funeral service and beyond.

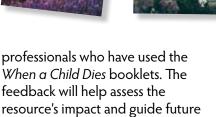
#### **Expanding** Trusted **Resources for Grief and Loss**

In 2024, the Foundation launched new projects with its longtime partners - the National Alliance for Children's Grief (NACG) and the National Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition (NPPCC) - to enhance two of its most widely used resources.

NACG is developing a series of short-form digital tools addressing six key topics from the Youth & Funerals initiative, designed to support grieving children and the adults who care for them.

Meanwhile, NPPCC conducted a survey of funeral directors and other deathcare





The Foundation offers all its resources FREE of charge at its resource store, sponsored by Batesville. Simply pay shipping.

improvements to the program.







Journey to Serve – the Funeral Service Foundation and the ICCFA Educational Foundation's joint recruitment initiative - continues to serve as a resource for recruiting U.S. and Canadian military veterans to funeral service.

Visit JourneytoServe.com or scan the QR code to download a free toolkit designed to help you hire veterans for your funeral service business.





## scholarships: Professional Development

JUNE 2024 JUNE 2024

## March 19 – 22 Meet the Mentors 26 Scholarships

Twenty-six young and newly licensed funeral service professionals gathered for NFDA's annual Meet the Mentors program, which the Foundation has wholly funded since its 2011 inception. Attendees learned from some of the profession's finest: Virginia "Jenni" Bryant, Jay Dietz, and Kenneth Howe.

For the first time, Meet the Mentors was held in conjunction with NFDA's annual Advocacy Summit in Washington, D.C.

# April 28 – 30 Professional Women's Conference 21 David C. Baue Scholarships

The Foundation awarded 21 funeral service professionals with David C. Baue NFDA Professional Women's Conference Scholarships for the 2024 Professional Women's Conference in Savannah, Georgia.

These professionals joined 150 dedicated women in funeral service for inspiration, learning, and camaraderie with presentations on leadership, advocacy, marketing, well-being, and more.

# June 19 – 21 Certified Celebrant Training Program 10 Scholarships

The Foundation awarded 10 scholarships to InSight Institute's Certified Celebrant Training Program, hosted at NFDA headquarters in Brookfield, Wisconsin.

Presented by Glenda Stansbury and Cathy Nichols of InSight Institute, the certification program developed celebrant skills around articulating the value of a funeral, facilitating family meetings, presenting, and more.

#### June 23 – 25 (Kickoff Event) National Emerging Leaders Program 20 Participants

The Foundation supported NFDA's **National Emerging** Leaders Program, a one-of-a-kind, yearlong skills training course for funeral service professionals interested in management, leadership, and more. The 2024-25 class was selected by a national review committee and launched its session at NFDA headquarters in Brookfield, Wisconsin, with a two-day event in June.











OCTOBER 2024 AUGUST-NOVEMBER 2024

## August 3 – 7 NFDMA Convention 9 Scholarships

Foundation Trustee
Carmalita MarchHarris and Foundation
Executive Director
Jedd Lapid presented
nine recipients with
scholarships to
attend the NFDMA
Convention in
National Harbor,
Maryland.

## September 11 – 13 CANA Convention 5 Scholarships

Foundation Immediate Past Chair Lisa Baue and Trustee Jimmy Lucas presented five recipients with scholarships to CANA's 106th Annual Cremation Innovation Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

#### October 20 – 23 NFDA Convention 24 Scholarships

Twenty-four funeral service professionals attended the 2024 NFDA International Convention & Expo in New Orleans, Louisiana, as Foundation scholarship recipients.

#### Student Arranger Training Program 4 Schools

For the eighth year in a row, the Foundation brought the NFDA Student Arranger Training Program to Canadian and ABFSEaccredited schools. Nearly 150 students from Lake Washington Institute of Technology, St. Petersburg College, Eastwick College, and Mid-America College of Funeral Service received in-person or virtual training.

August 28
Eastwick College

**September 20**St. Petersburg College

October 30 Mid-America College of Funeral Service

November 18
Lake Washington
Institute of
Technology







#### **SCHOLARSHIPS:**

### **Professional Development** 2024 Recipients



#### **Meet the Mentors**

Camille Bourbeau

O'Connor Brothers Worcester, Massachusetts

**Kortez Boyd** 

Westside Funeral Home Fairfield, Alabama

Alexandra Caselli

lefferson Memorial Funeral Home & Cemetery Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Darian Chalmers** 

**Brunswick Memorial Home** East Brunswick. New Jersey

**Cheyanne Cobbs** 

Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home & Cemetery Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Jordan Fenner

Hinkle-Fenner Funeral Home Inc., Davis, West Virginia

**Camille Gates** 

Broadway Mortuary Wichita, Kansas

Jesse Gomes

Molloy Funeral Home Inc. West Hartford, Connecticut

**Wylie Halferty** 

Wheelan-Pressly Funeral **Home and Crematory** Rock Island, Illinois

Chelsea Hogan

Joseph W. Bliley Funeral Home Richmond, Virginia

Angelina

**Huddleston-Kush** 

Heritaae Funeral Home-Oak Creek Oak Creek, Wisconsin

Kayla Hutter

Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home & Cemetery Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Dominique Johnson** 

The House of Johnson **Funeral Home** Detroit, Michigan

Steven Johnson

H.E. Turner & Company Inc. Batavia, New York

**Morgan Liscio** 

Old Bridge Funeral Home Old Bridge, New Jersey

**Nicole Lutz** 

Mueller Memorial Saint Paul, Minnesota

**Rachel Mackey** 

Advent Funeral & **Cremation Services** Falls Church, Virginia

Katheryn McFadden

Leonard Funeral Home & Crematory, Dubuque, Iowa

**Amber Perez** 

Heritage Funeral Home-Milwaukee Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**Charles Poston** 

Robinson Funeral Home & Crematory-Powdersville Rd. Easley, South Carolina

**Kelsey Ricci** 

Mitchell-Wiedefeld **Funeral Home** Baltimore, Maryland

Joe Louis Sanchez

Kreidler Funeral Home Inc. McAllen, Texas

Alexandria Shadof

Heritage Funeral Home-Greenfield Greenfield, Wisconsin

**Ashley Smith** 

Smith-Benton Funeral Home Benton, Arkansas

**Katlyn Taueetia** 

Coleman-Taulor **Funeral Services** Cecil, Pennsylvania

**Tyler Wilson** 

**Evergreen Funeral Home** & Cemetery Louisville, Kentucky

**Professional Women's** Conference (David C. Baue Scholarships)

Laura Adamo

Kuhn Funeral Homes West Reading, Pennsulvania

**Alex Adams** 

**Erlewein Mortuary** & Crematory Greenfield, Indiana

Kerri Bittner

Elm Ridge Funeral Home Muncie, Indiana

Teri Boda

Hulse, Playfair & McGarry Ottawa, Ontario

**Lucia Dickinson** Edmond, Oklahoma

**Morgan Drew** 

**Ballhorn Chapels** Sheboygan, Wisconsin

**Natalie Enoch** 

Jones Funeral Home Jacksonville, North Carolina

**Monica Hall** 

Richard R. Robinson **Funeral Home** Macon, Georgia

**Tiffany Huger** 

Wiseman Mortuary Inc. Fayetteville, North Carolina

Chanda Jeffers

Wylie Funeral Homes PA Randallstown, Maryland

Caitlin Johnson

Kirk Funeral Home Rapid City, South Dakota

Jennifer Lares

U.S. Army Regional Mortuary, Europe & Africa Landstuhl, Germany

Rachel Mackey

Advent Funeral & Cremation Services Falls Church, Virginia

**Anna Nesbit** 

Soxman Funeral Homes Ltd. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Hannah Alyss Noe** 

**Posey Funeral Directors** North Augusta, South Carolina

**Mandy Rodriguez** 

**Brown Funeral Home** Niles, Michigan

**Melanie Siano** 

**Holmdel Funeral Home** Holmdel, New Jersey

**Megan Smith** 

McFarland Funeral Chapel Tryon, North Carolina

Savannah Toews

Tri-State Cremation and **Funeral Services** Texarkana, Arkansas

**Evelester Vargas** 

Logan Square **Funeral Home** Chicago, Illinois

Joyce Williams

Stinson Funeral Home Detroit, Michigan

#### **Certified Celebrant Training Program**

**Timothy Brand** 

Thompson Funeral Home Lexington, South Carolina

Vienna Conyngham

Miller Funeral & Cremations Rochester, New York

**Nancy Jackson** 

Home Hospice of **Grayson County** Sherman, Texas

Megan Moten

Cook-Walden **Funeral Home** Austin, Texas

**Christa Ovenell** 

**Koru Cremation** Funeral Ceremony Vancouver, British Columbia

**Christine Radojcsics** 

Snyders Funeral Home Lexington, Ohio

**Stephen Rios** 

Altmeyer Funeral Home Virginia Beach, Virginia

Kavla Tvus

Tyus-Fields Funeral Home Detroit, Michigan

Lakeisha Webb

Memphis Funeral Home Memphis, Tennessee

**Kimberly Wolfe** 

Wolfe Brothers Funeral Home West Memphis, Arkansas

#### National Emerging Leaders Program

Jack Attfield

New Corner Cremations & Funerals Depew, New York

Joshua Austin

Cozine Memorial Group Wichita, Kansas

**Krystle Ballance** 

Cropo Funeral Chapel Winnipeg, Manitoba

Alexandra Caselli

Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home & Cemetery Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Christopher Costello Mothe Funeral Homes Algiers, Louisiana

Bryce Giroux

Garden City Funerals & Cremations St. Catharines, Ontario

Alexandria Johnson

Trinity Memorial Gardens Trinity, Florida

Steven Johnson

H.E. Turner & Company Inc. Batavia, New York

Tawanna Johnson

Saunders Funeral Home Jacksonville, North Carolina

Maureen Krienen

Krienen-Griffith Funeral Home Wilmington, Delaware

Alexandra Lazaruik

Park Memorial Ltd. Edmonton, Alberta

**Marshall Loring** 

Messinger Mortuary Scottsdale, Arizona

**Rachel Mackey** 

Advent Funeral & Cremation Services Falls Church, Virginia

**Emily Murphy** 

Lasting Tributes by Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Annapolis, Maryland

Crystal Pattillo

O'Guinn Family Funeral Home, Clio, Michigan Sarah Rehberg-Ziesmer

Heritage Funeral Homes Oak Creek, Wisconsin

**Eddie Richardson** 

Miller, Moster, Robbins Funeral Home Connersville, Indiana

Jacqueline Scheel Weinman

John N. Santeiu & Son Inc. Garden City, Michigan

Megan Smith

McFarland Funeral Chapel Tryon, North Carolina

Joshua Van Staalduinen

Knollcrest Funeral Home Lombard, Illinois

#### **NFDMA Convention**

**Kevin Brooks** 

Northeast Texas Community College Mt. Pleasant, Texas

**Damien Carter** 

Greene Funeral Home Alexandria, Virginia

Myiesha Fields

Mansfield Funeral Home & Cremations Mansfield, Texas

Sheri Franklin

Northeast Texas Community College Mt. Pleasant, Texas

Cierra Jefferson

Northeast Texas Community College Mt. Pleasant, Texas

Angela McLaurin

Wiseman Mortuary Inc. Fayetteville, North Carolina

Jerri Reed-Taylor

Leak & Sons Funeral Home Chicago, Illinois

**Linda Thrasher** 

F.L. Sims Funeral Home East Point, Georgia

Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Huntsville, Alabama

#### **CANA Convention**

Kerri Bittner

Elm Ridge Funeral Home Muncie, Indiana **Christopher Costello** 

Mothe Funeral Homes New Orleans. Louisiana

Joe'l Maldonado

Final Transitions LLC Beaufort, South Carolina

**Kari Northey** 

Langeland Funeral Home Kalamazoo, Michigan

**Mack Tall Hill** 

Cascade Funeral Directors Tualatin, Oregon

#### **NFDA Convention**

Tiffany Aguilar

Aguilar Funeral Services Mt. Vernon, Texas

Anthony Brayboy
Baltimore, Maryland

- .... **.** 

Eldrick Brown Roberts Funeral Home Birmingham, Alabama

**Libby Brown** 

Johnson Brown Funeral Service Norwood, Ohio

Desirae Delgado

Harrell Funeral Homes Austin, Texas

**Peter Dilwith** 

Mililani Memorial Park & Mortuary Pearl City, Hawaii

Myiesha Fields

Mansfield Funeral Home & Cremations Mansfield, Texas

**Dawn Gialet** 

Hainstocks Funeral Home & Crematorium-Service Corporation International Edmonton, Alberta

**Brandon Griffin** 

Bastrop Providence Funeral Home Bastrop, Texas

Shantelle Holts Joseph

Sid Roberts Funeral Home Nacogdoches, Texas

Peter Johnson

Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home & Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Vincent Johnson** 

Greene Funeral Home Alexandria, Virginia Stephen Kemp

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services Southfield, Michigan

Melina Maslanka

Osceola Memory Gardens Kissimmee, Florida

Janet McGee

University of Minnesota Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Amy McMullen** 

DeBaun Funeral Home Terre Haute, Indiana

**Bethany Moscalink** 

Paul G. Fink Funeral Home Inc., Connellsville, Pennsylvania

**Amber Perez** 

Heritage Funeral Home-Milwaukee Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**Kelly Richmond** 

VanderLaan Funeral Home Hudsonville, Michigan

**Elysia Smith** 

Frank E. Campbell – The Funeral Chapel New York, New York

**Megan Smith** 

McFarland Funeral Chapel Tryon, North Carolina

Linda Thrasher

F.L. Sims Funeral Home East Point, Georgia

Savannah Toews

University of Northeast Texas Mt. Pleasant, Texas

Allison Voorhess

Allison Voorhess Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors Royal Oak, Michigan

### **Student Arranger TrainingProgram**

Eastwick College Hackensack, New Jersey

Lake Washington Institute of Technology Kirkland, Washington

Mid-America College of Funeral Service Jeffersonville, Indiana

**St. Petersburg College** *Pinellas Park, Florida* 



**SCHOLARSHIPS: Academic Class of 2024** 

The 2024 scholars came from 24 U.S. states and 6 Canadian provinces.

"With these scholarships. I'm more excited than ever to continue my studies and work hard to make the most of this opportunity. I'm committed to doing my best and honorina uour faith in me through dedication and hard work... I hope to one day pay it forward and support others in the way you've supported me."

PARKER SAPPINGTON Fall 2024 Foundation '45 and Dennis Schoepp Memorial Scholarship Recipient (for future Montana funeral directors)

During the 2024 spring and fall scholarship cycles, the Foundation awarded 62 total academic scholarships, ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000, including four scholarships for military veterans, to funeral service students across the United States and Canada. These students exemplified exceptional dedication and a strong commitment to the profession.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, these scholarships not only support the educational journey of these future professionals but also help us forge meaningful connections with deserving students, empowering them to build promising careers in funeral service.

#### **Calvin Amato**

Tyrone, Pennsylvania Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science

#### **Berly Anez**

Davenport, Florida St. Petersburg College -Funeral Services Program

#### **Kirill Anisimov**

Trinidad, Colorado Arapahoe Communitu Colleae – Mortuary Science Program

#### **Toyanne Baker**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania **Northampton Community** College – Funeral Service **Education** 

#### Nikolai Blentlinger

Magnolia, Texas Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service

#### **Bonita Boyce**

Mississauga, Ontario **Humber College** 

#### **Evie Brisley**

Ridgewood, New York American Academy McAllister Institute of **Funeral Service Education** 

#### **Eldrick Brown**

Birmingham, Alabama Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service

#### **Ashleigh Brune**

Mesa, Arizona Chandler-Gilbert Community College – Mortuary Science Program

#### Lauren Brunke

Defuniak Springs, Florida Southern Illinois University -Mortuary Science and Funeral Service

#### Nicole Caldwell

Chandler, Arizona Chandler-Gilbert Community College - Mortuary Science Program

#### **Kylee Carr**

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma **University of Central** Oklahoma

#### **Jackson Cisco**

Celina, Ohio Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science

#### **Carolyn Cizmok**

Surrey, British Columbia Canadian College of **Funeral Service** 

#### **Emilie Côté**

Longueuil, Quebec Collège Rosemont

#### **Jesse Currens**

Lawrenceburg, Kentucky Mid-America College of **Funeral Service** 

#### **Shoshana Deming**

Baltimore, Maryland Community College of **Baltimore County-Catonsville** – Mortuary Science Program

#### **Cherie Digby**

Buckeye, Arizona Chandler-Gilbert Community College – Mortuary Science **Program** 

#### Charlene Edelmann

Rochester Hills, Michigan Wayne State University -Mortuary Science Program

#### **Hailee Fenlon**

Liberty Township, Ohio Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science

#### Alyssa Ford

Lowell, Michigan Worsham College of Mortuary Science

#### **April Gentling**

Minneapolis, Minnesota University of Minnesota -**Program of Mortuary Science** 

#### **Kassidy Goad**

Fancy Gap, Virginia Mid-America College of **Funeral Service** 

#### Gina Hansen

Staten Island, New York American Academy McAllister Institute of Funeral Service **Education** 

#### **Melissa Harris**

Elkhart, Indiana Mid-America College of **Funeral Service** 

#### **Chloe Hennebury**

Mount Pearl, Newfoundland and Labrador Canadian College of Funeral Service

#### Korissa Holloman

Adairville, Kentucky John A. Gupton College -**Funeral Service Programs** 

#### Mélanie Huth

Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec Collège Rosemont

#### **Emma Hyer**

Edinburgh, Indiana Worsham College of Mortuary Science

#### Cierra Jefferson

Midlothian. Texas Northeast Texas Community College -**Funeral Service Education** 

#### Jennifer Jones

Clearwater, Florida St. Petersburg College

#### **Jaxson Karline**

Burnsville, Minnesota University of Minnesota -**Program of Mortuary Science** 

#### Alyss Kerl

Houston, Texas Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service

#### **Laurie Lee Laracy**

Conception Harbour, Newfoundland and Labrador Canadian College of Funeral

#### **Kelly Lasater**

Billinas. Montana Des Moines Area Community College – Mortuary Science **Program** 

#### **lessah Linden**

York, Nebraska Des Moines Area Community College – Mortuary Science Program



"This scholarship not only alleviates the financial burden of my education but also validates the passion I have for this profession." LODINE THOMPSON Fall 2024 NGL Harry Pontone Memorial Scholarship Recipient



"I want to make it a daily task to guide families meaningfully as we plan celebrations that will remember, honor, and celebrate the lives of their loved ones."

#### **ELDRICK BROWN**

Spring 2024 Foundation '45 Scholarship Recipient



"Your investment in my education is not just an encouragement but also a validation of my goals and dedication to the field. It is truly humbling to have my efforts recognized by an organization that upholds the highest values of the funeral service profession."

#### ALYSS KERL

Fall 2024 Funeral Directors Life Memorial Scholarship



"Beyond the financial assistance, this scholarship affirms mu commitment to this meaningful profession and connects me to a network of professionals who share my passion for serving others with empathy and integrity."

JESSE CURRENS Fall 2024 Memorial Classic Scholarship Recipient



"This award will certainly have a significant positive impact on not only muself academicallu. but most importantly, it will make a difference in the lives of the bereaved families I aspire to serve."

JENNIFER JONES Spring 2024 Journey to Serve Veteran Scholarship Recipient



"This profession is my priority, and I will continue to give such a great oath to this industry and the families I will serve. It is people like you who help students like me to continue to focus wholly on their education and focus less on the stress of paying for school."

ALYSSA FORD Spring 2024 Foundation '45 Scholarship Recipient

#### Ellvsa Marshall

Armstrong, British Columbia Canadian College of **Funeral Service** 

#### **Michael Napolitano**

Rochester, Minnesota Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science

#### **Meghan Nixey**

Humboldt, Saskatchewan Canadian College of Funeral Service

#### **Adam Palumbo**

**Funeral Service** 

Program

Canandaigua, New York Pittsburgh Institute of **Mortuary Science** 

#### **Kaitlyn Pelletier-Leicht** Edmonton, Alberta Canadian College of

**Toni Pletcher** Yellville, Arkansas Arkansas State University - Mountain Home - Funeral Science

#### **Brian Poulin**

Brighton, Massachusetts North Shore Community College – Funeral Service Program

#### Jonathan Radford

Brookhaven, Georgia John A. Gupton College -**Funeral Service Programs** 

#### Steven Ringel

Nashville, Tennessee John A. Gupton College -**Funeral Service Programs** 

#### **Bobby Robinson**

Preston, Idaho Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service

#### Parker Sappington

Billings, Montana Arapahoe Community College - Mortuary Science Program

#### **Yota Sarantos**

Toronto, Ontario **Humber College** 

#### **Haley Schultz**

Richfield. Minnesota University of Minnesota -**Program of Mortuary Science** 

#### Mallory Shetka

Lake Crystal, Minnesota University of Minnesota -**Program of Mortuary** Science

#### **Nicole Snatchko**

Greensburg, Pennsylvania Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science

#### Denica St. Pierre

Comber, Ontario Collège Boréal

#### **Dachota Thebo**

Groton, Connecticut **FINE Mortuary College** 

#### **Deric Thomas**

Dublin, Georgia Ogeechee Technical College -**Funeral Service Education** 

#### **Lodine Thompson**

Whitby, Ontario **Humber College** 

#### William Finn Trotman

Hyattsville, Maryland University of District of Columbia Communitu College - Mortuary Science **Program** 

#### Nathalie Ubaldegaray

Staten Island. New York American Academy McAllister Institute of Funeral Service Education

#### **Cristina Valles**

El Paso. Texas **Chandler-Gilbert Community** College – Mortuary Science Program

#### Camila Vintimilla-Caster

Fort Worth, Texas Dallas Institute of Funeral Service

#### Sioux Westby

Indianapolis, Indiana Worsham College of Mortuary Science

#### McKenzie Widen

Concordia, Kansas Des Moines Area Community College – Mortuary Science Program

#### **Tsun Hung Mark Wong**

Vancouver. British Columbia British Columbia Funeral Association and Funeral Service Association of B.C.

## Major Donors. Major Impact.



With deep gratitude, the Foundation recognizes our major donors - those who contributed \$10,000 or more in 2024 – for their extraordinary generosity and belief in the Foundation's mission.

Our supporters strengthen the vital connection between funeral service professionals and the communities they serve. By investing in the people and programs that bring compassion, dignity, and healing to communities and families in their most vulnerable moments, our supporters make a difference.











## THANK YOU!

- SCI/Dignity Memorial: \$217,500
- Homesteaders **Life Company:** \$135,100
- Legacy.com: \$110,000
- The Tom Iohnson Memorial Classic: \$105,000
- Physicians **Mutual:** \$102,500
- Precoa: \$60,000
- Global **Atlantic:** \$33,500

- Foresight: \$20,874
- Eagle's Wings Air, Inman Shipping Worldwide, The McComb Family Foundation, and Travel Plan by Inman: \$19,780.18
- Tribute **Technology** Foundation: \$17,200
- Matthews **Aurora Funeral** Solutions: \$15,000
- The Baue Family: \$13,500

- Batesville: \$10,000
- Cadence: \$10,000
- Eternity's Touch: \$10,000
- Funeral Services of Iowa Inc.: \$10,000
- Louisiana **Funeral Directors** Association: \$10,000
- John O. Mitchell III and John O. "Jack" Mitchell IV, CFSP, CCSP: \$10,000

- Passages International: \$10,000
- Thomas Pontone – in memory of Louis & **Josephine Pontone:** \$10,000
- Schoedinger **Funeral Service Fund of The** Columbus Foundation: \$10,000
- Starmark **Funeral Products:** \$10,000
- The Wilbert **Group:** \$10,000













### 2024 Funeral Service **Foundation Golf Classic**

#### FOR THE BENEFIT OF FUNERAL SERVICE

Each year, the Funeral Service Foundation Golf Classic brings together supporters, funeral service professionals, and golf enthusiasts for a day of friendly competition, all in support of the funeral service community. The 24th annual event was hosted at TPC Louisiana, one of the region's premier courses, where more than 130 participants from across the country enjoyed a world-class golfing experience while raising funds for the cause!

With the support of Major Co-Benefactors Service Corporation International and Foresight, as well as Presenting Sponsor The Wilbert Group, nearly 60 organizations competed for the 2024 trophies. Rounding out a successful and competitive event, Batesville and NGL took home the first- and second-place trophies, respectively.

#### **MAJOR CO-BENEFACTORS**





#### PRESENTING SPONSOR



#### \$5,000 **PREMIER SPONSORS**

Batesville

Homesteaders Life Company

Matthews Aurora **Funeral Solutions** 

**National Guardian Life** Insurance Company

**Passages** International

Precoa

Regions Funeral and Cemetery Trust

Ring Ring Marketing

#### \$5,000 EAGLE **SPONSORS**

@need Marketing

The Baue Family

C&| Financial

ClearPoint Federal Bank & Trust

**Funeral Directors Life** Insurance Co.

Global Atlantic Travel Plan by

Inman, Eagle's Wings Air & Inman Shipping Worldwide

TruStage **Tukios** 

#### \$2,000 BIRDIE **SPONSORS**

American Funeral

Consultants Argent Trust

Arrington Funeral **Directors** 

**Atlantic Coast Life** 

Elevia

For Grief

**Howe-Peterson** Funeral Home & Cremation Services

MacKinnon & Bowes

ObituaryShare. com

#### \$2,500+ **UNDERWRITERS**

Answering Service for

**Directors Foundation** 

**Partners Group** 

Lake Lawn Metairie Funeral Home and Cemeteries

**Mid-States** Recycling Inc.

**NFDA** 

Park Lawn

Physicians Mutual **Robinson Funeral** Home

Vertin

#### \$1,000 CONTEST **UNDERWRITERS**

Carmon Community Funeral Homes

Cozine Memorial Group

**Express Funeral Funding** 

Krause Funeral Homes & Cremation Service

Publications Inc.

Speaks Chapels

#### \$500 TEE BOX **SIGNAGE AND IN-KIND SUPPORT**

Gables Capital Management Inc. **Garfield Refining** Preneed Funeral **Programs Trigard** 

# "It's About Relationships" DONOR RECEPTION

On the evening of October 21, more than 350 of the Foundation's dedicated donors, alongside current and former trustees and volunteers, gathered for the exclusive Donor Reception, generously underwritten by Global Atlantic Financial Group for the 11th consecutive year.

Hosted by Mark Krause, the Foundation's immediate past chair, the event honored more than 20 major donors, including Homesteaders, the Tom Johnson Memorial Classic Golf Tournament, Physicians Mutual, and Service Corporation International, all of which are at the \$100,000+ contribution level. Precoa was also recognized for its

impactful pledge of \$50,000 this past year. Those who supported the Foundation with gifts and pledges of \$10,000 or more were honored with ceremonial checks prominently displayed throughout the room, including those checks from Funeral Services of Iowa and the Louisiana Funeral Directors Association, which were presented on site.















#### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The evening concluded with the presentation of the Foundation's Distinguished Service Award, which was given posthumously to Tom Johnson, founder of Prime Succession and Johnson Consulting, former member of the Foundation's Board of Trustees, and founder of what is now the Tom Johnson Memorial Classic Golf Tournament. Former Foundation Trustee Jake Johnson spoke movingly about his father's profound influence on funeral service by highlighting his role as friend and mentor to countless individuals in the profession.

The Foundation extends its gratitude to The Messenger Co. for its support in honoring Tom's legacy. The company helped memorialize him with a portrait displayed on stage and provided printed memorial and donation cards featuring one of Tom's favorite quotes: "It's about relationships."

Former Foundation Chair Bob Arrington then led the Foundation's mission moment and paddle raise for the Tom Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund, with pledges and gifts totaling \$135,000. This fully

endowed academic scholarship will be awarded to students enrolled in accredited mortuary science degree programs beginning in 2025.

Fundraising for this special scholarship continues; to make a donation to the Tom Johnson Memorial Scholarship, please scan the QR code.





### 2024 **Donor Honor Roll**

The Donor Honor Roll recognizes and celebrates the generous donors that have given to the Foundation since 2002. Those listed donated in 2024 and/or have contributed \$25,000 or more cumulatively (including in-kind support). An asterisk \* indicates first-time donors. We are truly grateful for gifts at every level!

#### **WAYS TO GIVE:**





**LEARN MORE AND DONATE** ONLINE at FuneralService Foundation.org

\$1,000,000+





\$500,000+











\$250,000+

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#### **2024 HONOR ROLL**



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The Robert G. Horn Family

Johnson Consulting Group, Thomas Johnson and Jake

Kapinos-Mazur Funeral Home, Maxine and Ed Mazur

Keith M. Merrick Company

Lynch & Sons Funeral **Directors: Thomas, Patrick** and Timothy Lynch (In memory of Edward Lynch)

The Stephen Mack Family (In memory of Steve Mack)

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Messenger Co.

**Michigan Funeral Directors** Association

**New York Funeral Directors** Association

Nomis Publications Inc.

Patterson-Barclay Memorial Foundation Inc., Jack Allen

Precoa

Schoedinger Funeral & Cremation Service, Randy Schoedinger

Victoriaville & Co.

**Walker Family Funeral** Homes, Keith Walker

#### \$25,000

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**Anthony Funeral & Cremation Chapels** 

ASCAP, Phil Skinner

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Concord Family Services Inc.

Cozine Memorial Group, Ashley and Carolyn Cozine

Cremation Association of North America

**Federated Funeral Directors** of America

**Foresight** 

Fred Hunter Memorial Services

French Funerals and Cremation, Chester French Stewart

Fuller Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Kay and Tim Miller, and Michael S. Fuller

funeralOne

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Horan & McConaty Funeral Home (In honor of Jack and Valerie Horan)

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International Order of the Golden Rule

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MacKinnon & Bowes Ltd., Allan Cole

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NewBridge Group. Jeff Boutwell

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For Grief

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Nie Family Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Dutch and Donna Nie

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#### **2024 HONOR ROLL**

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**Bailey Funeral Home** 

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**Bradbury Memorial Center** 

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**Brown Funeral Home** 

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#### **2024 HONOR ROLL**



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A Sacred Choice Funeral Home

**Sanders Mortuary** 

Tim and Cheryl Schramm

Schumacher-Kish Funeral and Cremation Services Inc.

**SCI Illinois Service LLC** 

Señoriales Corporación de Servicio

Seymour Funeral Home & Cremation Service

**Short Funeral Home** 

**Smith Family Funeral Homes** 

**Smith Funeral Chapels** 

**Smith-Corcoran Funeral** 

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**Spear-Miller Funeral Home** 

**Speers Funeral Chapel** 

Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home Inc.

Spicer-Mullikin Funeral **Homes & Crematory** 

**Starks Family Funeral Homes** & Cremation Services

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**Twiford Funeral Homes** 

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**Weigel Funeral Home** 

Wells/Sheffield Funeral Chapel

Wetzel Funeral Home & Crematory Inc.

Wheeler Mortuary of Portales Inc.

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**Winowicz Funeral Service** 

Wise Funeral Service

Wiseman Mortuary Inc.

Woodbine Funeral Home Inc.

Wujek-Calcaterra Funeral Home

**Wyman-Fisher Funeral Home** 

Yarbrough Mortuary Services

Zabka-Perdue Funeral Home





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foundation.org



Jessica Bursi **Program and Development** Manager **Funeral Service Foundation** 

jbursi@funeralservice foundation.org



Christina Von Den Bergh Associate **Funeral Service Foundation** 

christina.vondenbergh @funeralservicefoundation.org

#### Dear Foundation Donors,

As I reflect on the past year, I am struck by the power of connection – the relationships we build, the support we extend, and the impact we make together. At the Funeral Service Foundation, our work is rooted in compassion, and it is through your generosity and dedication that we are able to lift up grieving communities across the country.

Your support - whether through a gift of time, talent, or treasure - makes our mission possible. Because of you, we are able to invest in the people and programs that strengthen the funeral service profession.

We fund scholarships that help students pursue their calling. We support continuing education and resources for funeral professionals. And we champion initiatives that advance the meaningful work of those who serve grieving families every day.

The strength of our community lies in the relationships we nurture. Our donors and volunteers are the heart of our mission. You believe in the importance of compassionate care. You understand the essential role of funeral service in helping families navigate loss and begin healing. And you act – again and again – to ensure that this work continues to thrive.

As we look to the future, we do so with deep gratitude and renewed purpose. Together, we are creating a stronger, more resilient profession. Together, we are honoring lives, supporting communities, and helping people heal.

Thank you for your unwavering support, your trust, and your belief in our shared mission.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Ledd Lapid

Jedd Lapid **Executive Director Funeral Service Foundation** 

FuneralServiceFoundation.org







13625 Bishop's Drive Brookfield, WI 53005 877-402-5900

Since 1945, the Funeral Service Foundation has served as the philanthropic voice of the funeral profession and has identified as the charitable arm of the National Funeral Directors Association since 1997. Donors and volunteer leaders profession-wide support the Foundation in its mission of lifting up grieving communities by investing in people and programs that strengthen funeral service.



### **GIVE MORE BY GIVING TOGETHER**

**IMPACT 1000** is a collective initiative that unites individual Funeral Professionals to champion change and raise funds to support the overarching mission of the Funeral Service Foundation.





#### GET INVOLVED AND JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Join now and explore benefits by going to FuneralServiceFoundation.org/impact1000

