Transforming Death Care Education – 2017 GALA

CINCINNATI, OH— Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science (CCMS) hosted the "Transforming Death Care Education" GALA on November 18th in Cincinnati.

(L to R) Robert L. Shank, Sr., CFSP, past president of OFDA and NFDA; Ken Cahall, president of NFDA and Dwayne Spence, past president of OFDA and NFDA. All Three honorees are CCMS alumni.

OFDA President Bradley Chute enjoys an opportunity to socialize with classmates.

Funeral Director and Attorney Poul Lemasters and Shelby enjoy the atmosphere and view of the Queen City during dinner.

OH. The event was a huge success honoring CCMS distinguished 1974 alumnus Kenneth A. Cahall, president, National Funeral Directors Association.

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QUEEN VICTORIA SOUP
Fannie Farmer Cookbook (early edition)

1 Tbsp butter
1 Tbsp finely chopped onion

Cook slowly in a deep pan until the onion is yellow then add:
1/3 cup chopped mushrooms
1 cup diced celery

Cook 10 minutes and add:
4 cups chicken broth
1 Tbsp Quick tapioca
1/2 cup diced cooked chicken
1/2 cup diced cooked ham
Sage, nutmeg and onion salt to taste

Cook 20 minutes and then add:
2 hardboiled eggs, finely chopped
1 or 2 cups cream (or evaporated milk)

Heat and serve in large bowls and garnish with chopped parsley.

To simplify: Use a can of mushroom soup in place of the mushrooms and cream and canned luncheon meat in place of ham.

Good Eating!
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are proud of our graduates and the history of demonstrated leadership at the local and national level within the death care profession” said Lechner.

“In addition to honoring Cahall, CCMS, the oldest mortuary college in the nation, unveiled its plans for Transforming Death Care Education by highlighting the college’s shift to secure and cement its position as the undisputed leader and premiere death care education provider in the United States,” said Lechner. Central to the Transforming Death Care Education initiative is the establishment of an Educational Cremation Center on the CCMS campus.

“When I started in funeral service the national cremation rate was 5.69 percent, in 2016 the national cremation rate reached 50 percent and is projected to keep growing. There are 22 states that require some form of cremation certification. We at CCMS believe it is time that a regionally and professionally accredited, degree granting, death care educational institution provide the highest quality education and training within a campus-based crematory, offering assurance that death care practitioners receive the education and training required to become technically and ethically grounded cremationists,” said Lechner.

The Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science was established in 1882. “We’re not the best because we are the oldest, we are the oldest because we are the best,” said Lechner. “We are continually adapting to best satisfy the educational needs of death care professionals, not only for those students training to enter our profession but for the lifelong education for practitioners.”

The GALA re-invigorated an already proud CCMS alumni base, confirming that CCMS is back, better than ever, and on a trajectory to transform death care education in the United States.