



# Alumni Hall of Fame

## **ROBERT “BOB” L. SHANK SR., CFSP**

Bob Shank started his career as a meat cutter working at his father’s grocery. He had a desire to enter the funeral profession and graduated from the Cincinnati College of Embalming in 1956. In 1964, Bob and his wife, Clara, had the opportunity to purchase the Witzler Funeral Home, a company founded in 1859. This humble beginning gave way to an illustrious career in funeral service with the ownership of numerous funeral homes and cemeteries, personal involvement in Perrysburg and its surrounding communities and dedicated service to his funeral director colleagues.

Professionally, Bob has served in numerous capacities with the Ohio Funeral Directors Association including its President in 1980-1981; the National Funeral Directors Association including its President in 1990-1991; appointed to the Ohio Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors for 12 years; and the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science including Board of Trustees member and its Chair, and a Trustee of the Endowment Fund. Bob was the 399<sup>th</sup> member to join the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice in June 1977, making him a lifetime member for 40 years.

Bob served his country in the Army Reserves and has devoted much time and attention to the Perrysburg community. Since 1964 he has been a member of Zoar Lutheran Church in Perrysburg, Ohio where he served in many leadership capacities. As a property developer, Bob has created unique residential neighborhoods in his community. Bob also has served as a member of Perrysburg Board of Education and served on St. Luke’s Hospital Board in Maumee. In addition, Bob served on the Scholarship Committee Board for the Hamilton Group, Keystone North America & Service Corporation International, an organization that awards more than \$50,000 a year annually in scholarships.

*For his excellence in service to both his colleague funeral directors and to his home communities, Robert “Bob” Shank, Sr., is hereby inducted into the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science inaugural Hall of Fame this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November 2017.*