



For Immediate Release: September 16, 2022

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***Waitt Funeral Home* Receives National Recognition for Innovative Programming, Outstanding Community Outreach**

Morganville, NJ – Waitt Funeral Home and long time directors David Hernandez and Michael Grandi were recently honored with the 2022 National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) Pursuit of Excellence Award, placing it among an elite group of funeral service professionals. Pursuit of Excellence Award recipients raise the bar on funeral service excellence by adhering to the highest ethical and professional standards and providing unsurpassed service to families and communities.

In addition to receiving the 2022 NFDA Pursuit of Excellence Award, Waitt Funeral Home was one of three funeral homes that received the Best of the Best Award in recognition of their development and execution of an innovative program or service that had a positive impact on the families and communities they served this year.

To earn an NFDA Pursuit of Excellence Award, a participating funeral home must meet or exceed business standards set forth by the program and demonstrate proficiency in key areas of funeral service, such as compliance with state and federal regulations; providing ongoing education and professional development opportunities for staff; offering outstanding programs and resources to bereaved families; maintaining an active level of involvement within the community; participating and actively serving in the funeral service profession; and promoting funeral home services through a variety of marketing, advertising and public relations programs. Participants are also required to adhere to a Pledge of Ethical Practices.

Waitt Funeral Home, located in Morganville, New Jersey earned the Best of the Best Award for an interactive grief program located at C1 Farms, an Alpaca Farm and Animal Sanctuary. To read about Waitt's program go to <https://nfda.org/membership/recognition-programs/pursuit-of-excellence/pursuit-of-excellence-honorees/best-of-the-best-award>

“Every year, I am astounded by the extraordinary ways in which our members are providing meaningful support to grieving families and communities,” said NFDA Director of Public Relations Jessica Koth, who manages the Pursuit of Excellence Award program. “The Pursuit of Excellence Task Force was captivated by this year’s entries and very much enjoyed reviewing each and every one. The task force applauds Hernandez and Grandi for their hard work and dedication to providing a superior level of service to families and communities. We are proud to have them as part of our NFDA family.”

“Our family and team were blessed by the program, not just in being able to provide a venue and program to reach our community but also in receiving friendships, volunteers to the farm, and two amazing animals Summer and Coal, that relocated as a direct result and now call our farm home!” Said David Hernandez, Owner of Waitt Funeral Home.

More information about the NFDA Pursuit of Excellence Award program can be found on the association’s website, www.nfda.org/pursuitofexcellence.