

Curlew Hills President Wins Prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award



It is an honor to announce that our company President & CEO, Keenan Knopke, has received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Cemetery, Cremation & Funeral Association. This very prestigious award is presented to an individual in recognition of their significant and sustained contributions to the death care industry.

Keenan began his 45-year career in the death care industry as a funeral director in the family business, Garden of Memories in Tampa. Born and raised in Tampa, Keenan has worked in the death care industry throughout the state of Florida. He became President of Curlew Hills in 2003 and has since received many awards for his contributions to the industry and the local community.

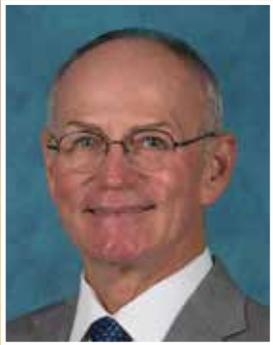
Keenan has always been passionate about giving his time and knowledge to the funeral industry. He is a five-time past President of the Florida Cemetery, Cremation & Funeral Association and a past member of the Board of Directors of the International Cemetery, Cremation, and Funeral Association. He is currently Vice-Chairman of the Board of Funeral Cemetery, and Consumer Services of Florida and is past Chairman of the Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services of Florida.

MEMORIAL DAY

With over 500 guests in attendance, our 31st Annual Memorial Day Service was beautiful. Richard Hunt, Commander Department of Florida Military Order of the Purple Heart, was our inspirational Keynote Speaker. Once again, Palm Harbor United Methodist Church Choir provided us with beautiful patriotic music. We concluded the event by serving free refreshments as usual. But, this year we had a special surprise for our guests...Chick-fil-A brought their famous sandwiches for all to enjoy! It was a wonderful way to end a beautiful event which honored America's fallen veterans.



A Note From Our President



Keenan Knopke

Today we live in a globally connected world. We're just as likely to communicate with people hundreds of miles away through LinkedIn as we are with someone across the street from us. No doubt, our notion of "community" has changed with the advent of the Internet and social media. But, despite the revolution in technology, it is still important to connect and contribute to the local community you call home.

For Curlew Hills, giving back to our local area has always been a priority. Not only for our company as a whole, but for all of us who work here. We encourage employees to volunteer with a charity they feel passionate about and or get involved in our great area Chambers of Commerce. I have recently joined the Board of Directors for St. Marks Village. In my involvement thus far, I am impressed with the sincerity of the organization's mission to serve the seniors in our community and am genuinely excited to do what I can to help.

Is there something you've been thinking about getting involved with? If so, maybe now is a good time. It doesn't matter how old you are or what you believe in, your involvement can make our community a better place. I encourage you to find an organization in our area to give your time, your talent or your resources. You'll be glad you did.

9/11/17 Memorial Service



We are busy planning our 6th annual 9/11 Memorial Service for 2017. It will be here before we know it! Our Master of Ceremonies this year will be Mark Wilson of FOX Channel 13 Tampa Bay. As you may recall, Mark's father John Wilson was our Master of Ceremony at last year's ceremony. We are thrilled that now his son Mark will join us this year.



Mark Wilson



Joyce Ng

We are also proud to announce that we have selected a Keynote Speaker for this year's ceremony as well, Joyce Ng. On 9/11, Joyce was inside the World Trade Center when it was attacked. She was trapped temporarily inside 3 World Trade Center when Flight 11 crashed into the North Tower and her building caught on fire. Since that day, Joyce has founded a non-profit charity that helps survivors and families of 9/11 and published a book that preserves the voices of the people who escaped from 3 World Trade Center entitled "Hotel 9/11", which was designated a National Artifact in the National September 11 Memorial & Museum.

We look forward to having Mark and Joyce join us for our 9/11 Memorial Service this year. Please mark your calendars to join us too!

9/11 Essay Contest

Calling all writers! We invite all 6th-8th grade students (as of Spring 2017) in North Pinellas County to submit an original essay addressing the theme "What 9/11 Means to Me". Deadline for entries is Friday, August 25th. First prize winner receives \$500 and will be invited to read his or her winning essay at the 9/11/17 Memorial Event held at Curlew Gardens. Please visit CurlewHills.com or contact Liz Monforti at Palm Harbor Fire Rescue at 727.683.1647 for rules and further details.

A Very Special K-9 Memorial Service

It was our pleasure to honor some of the area's most dedicated law enforcement employees...its K-9 service dogs at our 10th annual K-9 Memorial Service in May.

K-9 service dogs and their handlers from many area police and sheriff's departments were in attendance at the service. At this year's memorial, three new dogs were memorialized as well as the nearly 60 dogs that are currently interred at the Memory Gardens. Miss Largo, Ainsley Whyatt, beautifully sang the National Anthem.



Do you know someone who really cares about our community?



Nominate them for the Curlew Cares Award!

To nominate someone for the Curlew Cares Award, please give us in 500 words or less the reasons why you believe an individual should be recognized.

Email your nomination to mary@cmsa.com

Employee Spotlight

Denise Goodwin Controller



Denise was born in Windham, Maine, where she earned her degrees in Accounting and Business Administration.

She relocated to Florida in 2000 and joined Curlew Hills in 2012. Denise is a huge asset to Curlew Hills and brings nearly 30 years experience in financial management to the company. Outside of work, she enjoys family activities, boating and summer vacations in Maine. Denise resides in New Port Richey with her husband of 28 years, Roger, and their two children Robbie and Alyssa.

New Hellenic Section Opening



We are thrilled to announce that we have broken ground on the expansion of our Hellenic Section of the cemetery. Although we have some spaces still available, we are 90% sold out now in the first section.

Our new Hellenic section will be on one acre and will feature beautiful native trees and colorful landscaping. Approximately 1000 grave spaces will be located in this new section.

"We are very pleased to expand on our Hellenic section which caters to the cultural and religious beliefs of the Greek heritage," comments Keenan Knopke, President & CEO of Curlew Hills Memory Gardens. "We are the only cemetery in the Tampa Bay metro area to offer such a place that addresses the needs of our local Greek community."

Pre-sales are now available on a first come basis. Please call our office for more information.