

2018 CHAMBER LIFETIME IMPACT AWARD
Presented by Gary Akin

At this time, I have the great pleasure of presenting the 2018 Lifetime Impact Award.

We all know that Owasso is a wonderful place to live, shop, worship, and raise a family. Today, and in recent decades, Owasso has experienced tremendous growth in the residential, corporate, and professional sectors. History proves that successful cities of today can trace their community's success to historic leaders of the past. Individuals, who 50 to 60 years ago, were trail blazers, individuals who were setting a path so future generations could succeed. These individuals led with courage and vision. They took risks. They were great servants and great volunteers. They placed the future of Owasso on their shoulders because they cared so much.

I've worked in Owasso for 43-years and I can tell you that there is a small number of individuals that meet the criteria of which I just spoke. In the past two years we have honored two of those individuals and their spouses, Mr. Harold Charney and his wife Yolanda, and last year, Mr. D.M. Sokolosky and his wife, Phyllis. Today we honor a third, his name is Mr. John Mowery.

In 1964, John Mowery moved his wife Dolly and 1-year old son Steve to Owasso and with them brought the first ambulance to Owasso. John drove the ambulance to every football game and made emergency runs from Owasso to Tulsa whenever needed.

John was the Manager of Moore Funeral Home located on Main Street.

In 1967, he was elected President of the Owasso Chamber of Commerce, and in June of that year, he and his wife welcomed their 2nd son, Brad.

John served on the Owasso City Council. It was during that time that the Council approved and hired the first city Manager named Noble Campbell. At that time, Council members were also given commissioner titles and John was appointed Street Commissioner.

While his boys were young, John remained active in civic affairs in Owasso and coached little league baseball and basketball.

On January 1st, 1982, John opened his own business in Owasso known as Mowery Funeral Service and in 1983, John took on the responsibility again and served another term as President of the Owasso Chamber of Commerce.

Three and a half years had passed since he opened Mowery Funeral Service, when, in November 1985, John's oldest son Steve joined the family business.

In 1996, John and his late wife Dolly were named Mr. and Mrs. Trail Days for all their contributions to the Chamber, City, and citizens of Owasso.

In 2002, John retired from Mowery's Funeral Service and sold the business to his son Steve and in 2013, John's grandson, Grant, joined Mowery Funeral Service making it a 3rd generation, family owned and operated business, in Owasso.

John has served on the Board of Directors of the Baptist Retirement Village, the Owasso Golden Agers and the Owasso Historical Society. He is also a member of First Baptist Church, Gideons International, former Rotarian, and you can still find him every Thursday volunteering at the Owasso Historical Society.

John has two sons Steve and Brad and two AMAZING daughters in law, Renee' and Susan. He is a Grandpa to Brooke and Grant and

Great Grandpa to Case, all of whom have made their homes in Owasso.

In 2010, John married Ann Miller and they too reside in Owasso.

I've just had the pleasure of recognizing an Owasso Trailblazer, an Owasso Pioneer, a dedicated husband, father, grandpa, and great grandpa who has left an indelible mark of success on the landscape of Owasso.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome the recipient of the Chamber's Lifetime Impact Award, Mr. John Mowery.