

Good afternoon Members,

It is with sadness that I share with the FMCA membership that John Beidler, long-time Director of the Indian River Mosquito Control District (IRMCD), passed away peacefully yesterday evening (Dec. 13) with his 5 children at his side. John was 95 years old (almost 96). For those of you who don't know John, he was the Director of IRMCD from 1955 to 2003 and remained active in mosquito control ever since. He was a Past-President of the FMCA and received many awards and recognitions including the M.W. Provost Award. He was also awarded the AMCA's Meritorious Service Award and was granted Distinguished Alumni status at the University of Florida. John was a founding member of the Florida Coordinating Council on Mosquito Control, served on it for over 20 years and was affectionately known as the "Dean of Florida Mosquito Control". Those of us who were fortunate to know John mourn his loss as our friend but rejoice that we had so many years to benefit from his wisdom, leadership and kindness. His family is planning a memorial gathering sometime in January.

Doug Carlson

FMCA Past-President

Retired Director, IRMCD