

In Memoriam – Milton Kowalewski, Jr.

February 16, 2016

It is with deep sadness that the ASQ Energy & Environment Division (EED) announces the passing of Milton Kowalewski, Jr, affectionately known as “JR”. JR was an ASQ Fellow and a past Chair of EED. He was also a Registered Professional Engineer.

JR was killed and his wife, Darlene, was critically injured in a tragic automobile accident that occurred south of Portland, Oregon, on February 4, 2016. JR’s car was struck head-on by another car that entered the on-coming lane to try to pass an 18 wheel tractor trailer rig. JR died at the scene and his wife died on February 5 from her injuries.

From July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2007, JR served with distinction as the Chair of EED. Throughout his 30 years of service to EED, he served in many positions, including Treasurer, Secretary, Past Chair, and McDermond Award Chair. In this latter capacity, JR led EED in attaining the highest award level given by ASQ to a technical division. Currently, JR was again serving as EED Treasurer.

In 2005, JR Co-Chaired the EED annual conference with Ray Crawford – a conference that was a technical and financial success.

JR was the recipient of three EED awards as follows:

- “DIVISION AWARD” in 2007 for “outstanding leadership as Chair of ASQ Energy and Environmental Division, Chair of the 2005 conference and dedication to the quality profession”;
- “QA PERSON OF THE YEAR” in 2004 for “outstanding leadership and commitment in improving Energy and Environment Division Management”;
- “SERVICE AWARD in 1999 for “dedication to the Division through significant service over the previous fiscal year”.

For many years, JR worked in quality management on military projects on Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean and Kwajalein Island, Republic of the Marshall Islands, improving the military and civilian assets of the Republic. Only a week following his death he was scheduled to return to Kwajalein to work on a water purification project that will substantially enhance the safety, health and well being of the US military and civilian residents, as well as the citizens of the Island.

JR was a fun-loving guy, well respected and very well liked by all. He and his contributions to EED will be sorely missed. We of the EED Management Council pray for him and his wife and for the well being of their family in this time of grief.

The Celebration of Life for JR will be held on Saturday, March 12, 2016, beginning at Noon, at the North Redmond Events & Conference Center, 1857 N Hwy 97, Redmond, Oregon 97756.