



MEDIA CONTACT

Marissa Coulon, LFDA Account Manager
info@LFDAnet.org | LFDAnet.org | 225-767-7640
18153 E. Petroleum Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Troy Dennard Named 2026 C.A. Charlet Funeral Director of the Year

Baton Rouge, LA - The Louisiana Funeral Directors Association (LFDA) proudly announces that Troy Dennard, owner and operator of Dennard First National Funeral Home in Winnsboro, Louisiana, has been named the recipient of the 2026 C.A. Charlet Funeral Director of the Year Award. As LFDA's highest honor, the award recognizes a funeral director whose professionalism, leadership, integrity, and service have made a lasting impact on both the profession and the communities they serve.

For more than 37 years, Dennard has served the families of Franklin Parish with compassion, dignity, and personalized care. As owner and operator of the only locally owned and operated funeral home in Franklin Parish, he has earned a reputation for always being available when families need him most and for helping them navigate life's most difficult moments with understanding and sincerity.

A native of Crowville, Louisiana, Dennard is a graduate of Ward III High School and Commonwealth College of Mortuary Science. Alongside his wife of 38 years, Joann, he has built not only a successful family business but also a legacy of service. Together they are proud parents of two sons and grandparents to three grandchildren.

Throughout his distinguished career, Dennard has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to advancing funeral service in Louisiana. He currently serves on the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors and previously served as President of the Louisiana Funeral Directors Association. During his tenure as LFDA President, he helped strengthen the association through visionary leadership and, in 2025, spearheaded the inaugural LFDA Day at the Capitol, creating a new opportunity for funeral professionals to engage directly with state lawmakers and advocate for the profession.

Beyond funeral service, Dennard is a veteran of the Army National Guard and has devoted countless hours to serving his community through leadership roles in civic organizations, including the Masonic Lodge, Shriners, Kiwanis International, Scottish Rite, and York Rite. A man of deep faith, he has also served as a pastor, interim pastor, and pulpit supply minister, reflecting a lifelong commitment to serving others.

"Troy embodies everything the C.A. Charlet Award represents," said Kathleen O'Regan, Executive Director of LFDA. "His leadership, integrity, humility, and unwavering dedication to families and the funeral profession have left a lasting impact on Louisiana funeral service. He is truly deserving of this distinguished recognition."

Named in honor of longtime LFDA leader C.A. Charlet, the C.A. Charlet Funeral Director of the Year Award recognizes funeral directors whose careers exemplify outstanding leadership, professional excellence, and a lifelong commitment to advancing funeral service.

LFDA congratulates Troy Dennard on this well-earned recognition and thanks him for his enduring service to Louisiana families and the funeral profession.

Learn more about the award at www.lfdaweb.org/charletaward.

About LFDA

The Louisiana Funeral Directors Association is a statewide professional trade association made up of members throughout the State of Louisiana. The Louisiana Funeral Directors Association promotes integrity in the funeral service industry through education, legislation, networking and communications. For more information, visit www.lfdaweb.org.