



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Local developer to receive statewide recognition**

*Branson, Missouri* – Larry Neff will receive the Missouri Community College Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award at the association’s Fifty-Second Annual Convention, November 3 at the Hilton Convention Center in Branson, Missouri.

Neff grew up in southwest Missouri, graduating from Crowder College in 1968. Before his time at Crowder, he served in the U.S. Navy and partnered with his father, as an owner and operator of Neff Strawberry Farms, the largest producer of strawberries in the four-state area.

He later owned and operated Red Carpet Construction and Real Estate, and was a licensed Missouri real estate broker for 32 years. In his 45 years as a real estate developer and builder, he owned and managed over 100 residential and commercial properties.

He served on countless community boards and committees—even founding a few organizations along the way.

Neff was a tremendous advocate for health care. When he passed away on May 29, 2016 he was within just a few months of being a 26 year heart transplant survivor.

At the time of his transplant, life expectancy was only five years.

He was the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions. Throughout his life he made a monumental impact on both Crowder College and the southwest Missouri region.

MCCA’s Distinguished Alumni Award is presented annually to exceptional individuals who have attended a Missouri community college. It is one of the most prestigious awards presented by the membership of the Association. Although it is not required that the recipient be a graduate of a community college, preference is given to those who have earned a certificate or completed a degree program.

*The Missouri Community College Association is a statewide organization through which Missouri’s community colleges work together to advance common agendas. MCCA brings the state’s 12 colleges together for advocacy, professional development, information, and collaboration.*



Pictured L-R: Cindy Branscum, Director of Institutional Advancement, Larry Dean & Terry Neff, sons of the late Larry Neff accepting the award on behalf of their father, and Dr. Jennifer Methvin, President, Crowder College.

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