



Indiana Wholesale Distributors Association  
 Kentucky Wholesale Distributors Association  
 Ohio Wholesale Marketers Association

## Garry Adams Memorial Award

*“What started a few years ago as an idea to explore has finally evolved into a tri-state partnership of which we can all be proud.”*

Garry Adams, 1998 Tri-State Convention Chairman  
 President, Dittman-Adams Company

The joint convention of the industry associations from Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio was the vision of the leadership of the three states, with the first Tri-State Tobacco and Candy Distributors Convention held in 1998. Garry Adams was actively engaged in the associations of all three states and was part of the team that took the Tri-State Convention, now the Midwest Wholesale Distributors Conference, from a vision to reality. He never stopped believing in the opportunities that the future holds for the convention, the tobacco industry and the c-store distribution channel.

Garry passed away in 2010 and the annual Garry Adams Memorial Award was created with the encouragement and support of many of Garry’s friends and colleagues from all levels of the industry to recognize an individual who shares some of Garry’s strongest and most admirable traits ...

**Industry Involvement ● Political Involvement ● Community/Charitable Involvement**

The Garry Adams Memorial Award is presented annually at the joint gathering of the industry state associations.

Nominations will be accepted until August 9<sup>th</sup> and will be reviewed by a panel of Midwest Conference representatives.



**ELIGIBILITY**

Any employee of a distributor member of the state associations represented in the Midwest Wholesale Distributors Conference, and any employee of a manufacturer or broker in the industry who exhibits the traits of Industry Involvement, Political Involvement and Community/Charitable Involvement.

**PAST RECIPIENTS**

<b>2010</b>	<b>Charlie Casper</b> Hardec’s <i>Kentucky</i>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Bob Wiemuth</b> Wiemuth & Son Co. <i>Indiana</i>	<b>2018</b>	<b>Jerry Ray</b> Modern Distributors <i>Kentucky</i>
<b>2011</b>	<b>Albert Guarnieri, III</b> Albert Guarnieri & Co. <i>Ohio</i>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Steve Kottak</b> R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. <i>Winston-Salem, North Carolina</i>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Jim Perry</b> Xcaliber International <i>Ohio</i>
<b>2012</b>	<b>Rick Gummer</b> Gummer Wholesale <i>Ohio</i>	<b>2016</b>	<b>David Tritsch</b> Columbus Candy & Tobacco Co. <i>Ohio</i>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Brent Shay</b> Eby-Brown Co. <i>Indiana</i>
<b>2013</b>	<b>Pat Carrico</b> Richmond Master Distributors <i>Indiana</i>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Kent Mills</b> ITG Brands LLC <i>Indiana</i>	<b>2022</b>	<b>John Kaiser</b> Kaiser Wholesale <i>Indiana</i>
				<b>2023</b>	<b>Dave Cockerell</b> Superior Wholesale Distributors <i>Ohio</i>

**NOMINATION PROCESS**

Complete Nomination Form

Nomination Form ➔



## Garry Adams Memorial Award

**NOMINATION PROCESS** Complete and return the form below. Feel free to include any materials supporting the nomination [i.e. prior recognitions given to the nominee, statements of support from individuals familiar with the nominee's industry involvement, political or community/charitable involvement, etc.].

**ELIGIBILITY** Any employee of a distributor member of the state associations represented in the Midwest Wholesale Distributors Conference, and any employee of a manufacturer or broker in the industry.

**NOMINEE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITION W/COMPANY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **YEARS W/COMPANY AND/OR INDUSTRY:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe how the nominee demonstrates each of the following traits. Feel free to use additional paper if needed and feel free to include any materials supporting the nomination.

**INDUSTRY INVOLVEMENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**COMMUNITY/CHARITABLE INVOLVEMENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**NOMINATED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMPLOYER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

Return Nomination Form by August 9<sup>th</sup> to  
Midwest Wholesale Distributors Conference  
c/o Indiana Wholesale Distributors Association  
P.O. Box 68178  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46268  
Phone: (317) 610-5997 • Email: [ann@centraloffice1.com](mailto:ann@centraloffice1.com)