News Release

Cox Named
Leader in Banking Excellence

For immediate release
August 7, 2018



The late **Michael L. Cox**, former president and CEO of First Merchants Bank, Muncie, was honored by the Indiana Bankers Association (IBA) as a Leader in Banking Excellence at an awards ceremony held on Aug. 3. He was represented at the ceremony by family members. The leadership award, initiated this year, recognizes exceptional bankers, past and present, who have positively impacted Indiana banks and the communities they serve. Along with Cox, eight other members of the Indiana banking community were named to the inaugural class of Leaders in Banking Excellence.

The awards ceremony took place at the IBA offices in Indianapolis, with presentations from dignitaries including Congressman Trey Hollingsworth; Director Thomas C. Fite, Indiana Department of Financial Institutions; Senators Rodric Bray and Travis Holdman; IBA Chairman Clay W. Ewing, German American Bank, Jasper; and IBA President and CEO Amber R. Van Til. The ceremony culminated with the showing of the IBA Leaders in Banking Excellence wall, where plaques representing each honoree are to remain on permanent display.

The plaque for Mr. Cox reads as follows:

> Michael L. Cox, former president and CEO of First Merchants Bank, Muncie, began his banking career in 1970, joined First Merchants in 1994 and retired in 2007. He passed away in 2017 at age 72. Cox was respected as a past chairman of the Indiana Bankers Association and as a director of the Community Bank Council of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. He also served on the board of advisers of the American Bankers Association Stonier Graduate School of Banking, of which he was an alumnus. A veteran of the U.S. Army, Cox was active with multiple organizations, including the Mayor's Task Force on Urban Enterprise Zone, the Muncie-Delaware County Chamber of Commerce, the Muncie YMCA, the Ball State University Alumni Council, Junior Achievement, Minnetrista Cultural Center, Goodwill Industries and the Boy Scouts of America.

The Indiana Bankers Association extends congratulations to the 2018 class of Leaders in Banking Excellence:
David A. Bochnowski, Peoples Bank, Munster
Alonzo Hernly Boyd Jr. (deceased), Wayne Bank and Trust Company, Cambridge City
John H. Colvin, North Salem State Bank
Michael L. Cox (deceased), First Merchants Bank, Muncie
S. Joe DeHaven, Indiana Bankers Association, Indianapolis
Patrick J. Glotzbach, The New Washington State Bank, Charlestown
Dan L. Moore, Home Bank, Martinsville
James L. Saner Sr., North Salem State Bank
Mark A. Schroeder, German American Bank, Jasper

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The Indiana Bankers Association has inducted nine bankers into the inaugural 2018 class of Leaders in Banking Excellence, in recognition of professionals who have positively impacted Indiana banks and the communities they serve. Shown are (front row, from left): Mark A. Schroeder, German American Bank, Jasper; James L. Saner Sr., North Salem State Bank; John H. Colvin, North Salem State Bank; (back row, from left): Patrick J. Glotzbach, The New Washington State Bank, Charlestown; Sharon Cox, representing the late Michael L. Cox, First Merchants Bank, Muncie; S. Joe DeHaven, Indiana Bankers Association; Dan L. Moore, Home Bank, Martinsville; Wendy Boyd, representing the late Alonzo Hernly Boyd Jr., Wayne Bank and Trust Company, Cambridge City; and David A. Bochnowski, Peoples Bank, Munster.
Photos available upon request.

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The Indiana Bankers Association supports Indiana banking through issues analysis, professional education, and products and services that enhance financial institutions' ability to help build better communities.

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