

NREMT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BILL BROWN RECEIVES 2009 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



NREMT Executive Director Bill Brown, Jr. was awarded the 2009 Rocco V. Morando Lifetime Achievement Award in EMS at the EMS Expo in Atlanta, October 27, 2009.

Bill was completely surprised when he came to the stage during the awards ceremony, thinking he was presenting the award to someone else, and instead, received the award himself. The Lifetime Achievement Award in EMS is presented by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) and sponsored by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT).

"Lifetime Achievement in EMS' is a title that is truly appropriate to attach to the name of Bill Brown," NREMT Chairman of the Board Jimm Murray commented. "He has spent a professional career in the service of EMS and patients, first in direct medical care and then in devising systems of training and testing that aid the public. This is a most fitting match of a title and a person."

NAEMT President Patrick Moore told the audience at the awards ceremony that "Bill Brown is truly a visionary," pointing out his heroic efforts as a Paramedic (PJ) in Viet Nam, assisting refugees from Hurricane Katrina, and shaping the NREMT.

NAEMT recognizes excellence in various areas of prehospital medical care with the presentation

of individual and organizational achievement awards on an annual basis. The awards honor America's EMS practitioners and organizations that demonstrate exceptional leadership within the profession and outstanding commitment to prehospital medical care. The Rocco V. Morando Lifetime Achievement Award is named after Rocco V. Morando, a pioneer in EMS and the first recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is considered the NAEMT's most prestigious award.

"A long time ago in Viet Nam, I recognized my mission would be to continue the Pararescue mission—'That Others May Live'," Bill commented as he accepted the award. He said his purpose with the NREMT is about EMS provider competency and safety of the public, with a side goal of making EMS better.

In comments Bill later wrote in a forum to his staff, he said in part, "Perhaps I will never be able to say enough "thanks" to so many people who have made my life so meaningful...The NREMT is what it is today because of the teamwork we accomplish with our stakeholders, Board Members and staff. We will all only be able to pass through life one time. For those of us who have chosen the mission to help others, both directly and indirectly, life has the flavor others will never know. It is not a "one-