



# Former JMC QASAS inducted into Ordnance hall of fame

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McALESTER, Okla. – Former Defense Ammunition Center director, James Q. Wheeler, was one of 17 members inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame on May 4, 2011.

Wheeler unexpectedly passed away on Feb. 5, 2007. Jyuji Hewitt, deputy to the commander, Joint Munitions Command, accepted the award in his honor.

“Jim Wheeler was a pioneer in the research development efforts of demilitarizing our obsolete ammunition and was critical in enhancing the education of our Ammunition Managers and QASAS who are so critical to our Warfighters today,” said Hewitt.

“Our successes today result from leaders like Jim - we stand on his shoulders. The Army and the Ordnance Corps are grateful for his selfless service.”

The Ordnance Corps Hall

of Fame was established on May 9, 1969, to recognize and memorialize persons who have made a positive, significant contribution to the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps.

Wheeler graduated from Southwest Missouri State University in 1972. He began his career in federal service in 1979 as a Quality Assurance Specialist Ammunition Surveillance intern at the Savanna Army Depot, Savanna, Ill. As an intern

and then professional member of the QASAS Career Program, Wheeler gained critical skills, knowledge and technique that carried him throughout his career into various senior levels of ammunition management.

“Mr. Wheeler dedicated his career to supporting America’s warfighters, and to those, military and civilian, who chose ammo as a career field,” expressed Mark Haring, Chief of JMC’s Joint Services/JOCC

Integration Office.

“Mr. Wheeler was a man who could be relied upon to adapt to change and accept new opportunities and challenges across the ammunition enterprise.”

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**Career** Jyuji D. Hewitt, deputy to the commander, Joint Munitions Command, accepts the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame award in honor of James Q. Wheeler. Wheeler was awarded for his demonstrated professionalism and knowledge of ammunition during his time as a DAC QASAS.



## Ordnance

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One of Wheeler's most prominent roles began Feb. 1, 1998, when he was appointed director of the Defense Ammunition Center.

In this position, Wheeler served as one of the Army's key spokesmen for ammunition and explosives safety, demilitarization technology development, munitions transportation engineering, logistics assistance, and training. He was recognized worldwide for his munitions demilitarization and disposal expertise and routinely presented and explained the challenges faced by the growing, obsolete stockpile of conventional ammunition

at international forums.

Wheeler was also influential in the development and fielding of the Munitions Items Disposition Action System, an ongoing program managed by DAC with programmatic support provided by Argonne National Laboratory since 1993. MIDAS provides a central source for structure and composition data for conventional and missile munitions, and supports the safe and effective disposal of munitions items and their byproducts.

After September 11, 2001, and at the guidance of Wheeler, DAC developed AmmoHelp, an information-  
al database that allows the

warfighter and Department of Defense civilians to pose questions on any aspect of ammunition and explosives management, operations, and use.

AmmoHelp received a citation for Exceptional Service at the 2003 Association of the U.S. Army Annual Meeting, and continues to be a tool used to support warfighter operations and decision makers across the Services.

Through AmmoHelp, more than 6000 questions have been answered.

Wheeler was also the primary driving force behind the development and fielding of the Automated Tactical

Ammunition Classification System. ATACS equipment automatically sorts and inspects small arms ammunition and recovers serviceable rounds for reuse.

Deployed in both the continental United States and in theater, ATACS has enhanced processes and saved the DoD millions of dollars by reducing labor costs and by reintroducing serviceable assets into the munitions stockpile.

"Mr. Wheeler's leadership, vision, and significant contributions will have an enduring effect on the worldwide ammunition community," said Haring. <sup>1/2</sup>