

# Selection Committee

*NATCA members nominated their fellow colleagues to receive the Archie League Medal of Safety. A committee, comprised of three individuals with a broad range of aviation experience, selected the award recipients from the nominees in each region. Below is a brief biography about the panel, Mortimer Downey III, Barry Krasner and John Nance.*



**Mortimer L. Downey III**

Mortimer L. Downey held the position of U.S. deputy secretary of transportation for eight years, becoming the longest serving individual in that post. As the department's chief operating officer, Downey developed the agency's highly regarded strategic and performance plans and had program responsibilities for operations, regulations and investments in land, sea, air and space transportation. In a prior administration, he served as assistant secretary of the department.

Previously, Downey was the executive director and chief financial officer of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority and also worked at the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Budget and at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree from Yale University, a Master's degree from New York University, completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School and served as an officer with U.S. Coast Guard Reserve. He is currently chairman of PB Consult, Inc.



**Barry Krasner**

Barry Krasner, NATCA's President Emeritus, began his Federal Aviation Administration career in January 1982 at the New York Terminal Radar Approach Control and has been an air traffic controller in the LaGuardia Area ever since. He was involved in NATCA's organizing drive in the mid-1980s, served as both vice president and president of New York TRACON before being elected as the Eastern Region Vice President in 1988, and then served two terms as NATCA national president, from 1991-97. Krasner is currently serving as president of NATCA Membership Investments (NMI).

Krasner was a member of the negotiating team for NATCA's first contract, signed in 1998, and was chief negotiator for the air traffic negotiations on the 1993, 1998, and 2005 contract teams. He has also served as chief negotiator for all other NATCA-represented bargaining units. With the FAA, Krasner jointly instituted the Quality Through Partnership program during Vice President Al Gore's "Reinventing Government" initiative, and served as a member of the Department of Transportation's Partnership Counsel during the same time period. Krasner lives on Long Island, N.Y., with his wife, Sallie, who works in NATCA's Eastern Region office. He has three children and two grandchildren.



**John J. Nance**

John J. Nance, a native Texan who grew up in Dallas, holds a Bachelor's degree from SMU and a Juris Doctor from SMU School of Law, and is a licensed attorney. Named Distinguished Alumni of SMU for 2002, he is also a decorated Air Force pilot veteran of Vietnam and Operations Desert Storm/Desert Shield and a Lt. Colonel in the USAF Reserve, well known for his involvement in Air Force human factors flight safety education.

Nance has piloted a wide variety of jet aircraft, including most of Boeing's line and the Air Force C-141, and has logged over 13,000 hours of flight time in his commercial airline and Air Force careers. He flies his own turbine aircraft, was a veteran Boeing 737 Captain for Alaska Airlines, and is an internationally recognized air safety analyst and advocate, best known to North American television audiences as Aviation Analyst for ABC World News and Aviation Editor for "Good Morning America." Nance is the nationally-known author of 18 major books, five non-fiction: *Splash of Colors*, *Blind Trust*, *On Shaky Ground*, and *What Goes Up*, [all published by William Morrow], and *Golden Boy* [Eakin Press, 2003]; plus 13 fiction bestsellers, including *Orbit* [Simon and Schuster], which was published in March 2006 and is also in development by Fox 2000 studios as a major motion picture.