

# George Merges, Jr.\*, FCSI

*"For your enduring and exemplary service to the Institute over four decades, including four years as Pittsburgh Chapter President, Co-chairman of the Middle Atlantic Region Conference three times in twenty years, four years on the Jury of fellows, and numerous terms on committees and boards, during which you have distinguished yourself as a passionate advocate of CSI principles and a mentor to construction professionals, you are advanced to Fellowship on the 22nd day of June 2007."*  
Baltimore, Maryland



GEORGE MERGES, JR., was born in 1942, and grew up in the Western Pennsylvania steel town of Aliquippa.

George attended Case Institute of Technology, where he majored in Mechanical Engineering and planned to minor in space science. After his freshman year, he transferred to Carnegie Institute of Technology and received a Bachelor of Architecture in 1967.

He became licensed to practice architecture in Pennsylvania in 1970, and received his NCARB registration at that time. He was licensed to practice in Colorado in 1985.

George worked in the Architectural Departments of two large international engineering firms from 1962 through 1976, where he was Project Architect on a variety of projects. These included schools, hospitals, banks, public works projects, and engineering projects. The engineering projects included notable structures such as: the buildings of the Betsy Ross Bridge, Philadelphia; the New River Gorge Bridge, West Virginia; the Liberty Tunnel Portals, Pittsburgh; and thirty-two buildings for the Alaska Pipeline Base of Operations.

From these diverse experiences, it was a smooth transition, in March of 1976, to private practice. His architectural practice

specialized in light commercial, light industrial, and multi-family architecture. His office was in Center Township, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

After becoming a member of the Pittsburgh Chapter in 1976, George served as chapter president for four terms, Product Show Chair six years, chair and co-chair of two region conferences, and chair of one bi-region conference. George held a seat on the Pittsburgh CSI Board of Directors more or less continuously from 1977 until he retired. He served on and chaired several region committees, and served four years on the CSI Jury of Fellows.

George was married to the former Deborah Pettibon in June 1969. They had two children, Kimberly and Gregory, who attended numerous CSI conventions and region conferences. CSI has been a family affair in the Merges household; Debbie and Gregory both were members of the Pittsburgh Chapter. Debbie is a product representative and Greg was an intern architect working with George's firm George Merges, Jr., Architect.

Merges passed away on 25 August 2019, in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

## **CSI Membership**

Pittsburgh Chapter, 1976

## **Institute Offices, Committees**

Jury of Fellows, FY 2003-2006

## **Middle Atlantic Region Offices, Committees**

Chair/Co-Chair, 1985 Region Conference

Co-Chair, 1995 Region Conference

Chair, 2005 Middle Atlantic Region/Great Lakes Region Bi-Region Conference

Chair, Membership Committee

Chair, Awards Committee

Planning Committee

Operations Committee

## **Awards**

### **Institute**

Certificate of Merit and Appreciation, 1981, 1982, 1997, 1998

### **Middle Atlantic Region**

George C. Neuhausel Memorial Award

Region Director's Special Award

### **Pittsburgh Chapter**

Harry Ray Nay Memorial Award

Raymond A. Fisher Memorial Award