

## \*\*\*\*\* CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – VANCE R. WANNER MEMORIAL AWARD \*\*\*\*\*

The Military Operations Research Society (MORS) invites nominations for the coveted **Vance R. Wanner Memorial Award**.

**Overview:** CDR Vance R. Wanner, USN, joined the MORS Executive Committee in 1963, serving as the driving force behind daily operations by administering contract arrangements with the Office of Naval Research Sponsor. Following incorporation of the Society in 1966, CDR Wanner was appointed as Executive Secretary, a position he held from 1966 until his passing in 1977. During his tenure and association with MORS, the annual symposia grew from roughly 50 attendees with almost 70 papers and reports to over 800 attendees, with some 50 general session papers, and 250 working group presentations.

The Wanner Award recognizes an individual who has played a major role in strengthening the profession of national security operations research as well as the Society at-large. Recipients of this award demonstrate sustained, distinguished service and excellence as leaders, resulting in timely and significant contributions to operations research in support of the security of our nation. They exemplify effective, strong leadership and imbue a deep sense of ethical conduct.

**Due Date:** Nominations should be sent to [recognition@mors.org](mailto:recognition@mors.org) no later than **27-Mar-2026** (extended from the previous 13-Feb-2026 deadline).

**Criteria:** Nominees for the Wanner Memorial Award should exhibit the following:

1. Distinguished service over time as a leader in the conduct of national security operations research, resulting in important contributions to the profession.
2. Broadening the vision of decision makers and increasing the recognition of operations research as a force multiplier to national security.
3. Contribution to the institutional aims, goals, and professional status of MORS, leading to long-term enhancement of its role in providing a forum not otherwise available to the community.

**NOTE:** Current MORS Sponsors and Voting Directors are not eligible for this award.

**Nominations:** Nominations may be made by any of the six military services, the Joint Staff, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Sponsors of MORS, and Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security service officials at the assistant secretary level. The following positions may also complete nominations:

- Senior military officers (O-6 and above), or civilians of equivalent rank, in duly appointed positions as managers of staff or field activities, the primary role of which is military and national security operations research.
- The senior executive officer of educational, research, or analytic institutions directly and intimately associated with military operations research. Examples of the intent here include the Academic Dean, US Naval Postgraduate School, and the equivalent position at the Air Force Institute of Technology, the Presidents of Defense related Federally Funded Research and Development Centers, and the directors of defense scientific laboratories.
- Present and former members of the MORS Board of Directors.

**Process:** The MORS Awards committee will review and evaluate each complete nomination packet, and provide a recommendation to the MORS Executive Council for further review, deliberation, and approval. Any award recipient will be kept in confidence until the MORS President notifies the final recipient. Any recipient will be awarded a plaque at the annual MORS Symposium. **NOTE:** The Wanner award is a competitive award - any winner must be selected from a pool of more than one applicant within each application cycle.

**Requirements:** Nomination packets must include the following information to be considered complete.

**PART I:** Nominee data.

1. Name of nominee
2. Address, email, and phone number
3. Present position, title, grade, rank
4. Organizational location
5. Immediate supervisor
6. Activity or station
7. Brief description of duties or responsibilities
8. Résumé of previous awards or honors
9. A list representative of published papers, articles, or books

**PART II:** Narrative. The nominating party should provide a separate, signed letter articulating the nominee's qualifications for each of the award criteria, and any additional pertinent information about the nominee and their accomplishments.

**Recent Winners:** 2025 - Ms. Renee G. Carlucci, FS; 2024 – Mr. Arthur “Trip” Barber, III; 2023 - Mr. Walt DeGrange; 2022 - Dr. William Forest Crain; 2021 - Dr. George Akst; 2020 - Dr. Robert F. Dell; 2019 - Dr. John A. Battilega; 2018 - Ms. Virginia R. Beall