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## **A salute to the 1st inductees into the MBREA Hall of Fame**

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Qualified appraisers with appraisal designations from credible organizations such as the The Appraisal Institute and the Massachusetts Board of Real Estate of Appraisers (MBREA) seem to be more in demand. I have been contacted by several new clients/lenders because I have the SRA and RA designations. This is a great time in the Real Estate Cycle for appraisers to upgrade their qualifications and diversify their client base. Qualifications have been a major factor in my success with 24 years now as an appraiser.

The MBREA just celebrated their 75th anniversary and I was privileged to attend this wonderful event where the first inductees into the Hall of Fame were honored. The inductees are people that have given their time to the organization and have really impacted the appraisal profession in a significant way. While all the inductees were well deserving, I have my personal favorites. The first is Charlie Akerson who I had the privilege to have as a teacher many years ago when I was learning how to do the Income Approach. All I kept thinking was how lucky I was to be learning from the man who actually "wrote the book" on Capitalization Theory and Techniques. I thoroughly enjoyed his real life stories and loved his class. His recent passing is a great loss to all of us.

Then there is Abigail Burns who was an inspiration as the first woman president of the group. There have been several women since, including myself.

Most of all I was proud to hear that my mentor, Steve Byrnes was inducted. His service in Washington on behalf of the MBREA for many years was just invaluable and those following in his footsteps will have large shoes to fill. Steve was always there to help less experienced appraisers learn to "do it right" and follow the professional and ethical path. I could go on and on but I will just simply say thank you Steve on behalf of myself and the MBREA. Your work and your giving spirit will not be forgotten. Dedication and loyalty of all the inductees was recognized as a common character trait, both in their personal and professional lives. The evening was truly inspirational as well as reminiscent of our past history.

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