



## **CITATION FOR TONY CONTRERAS**

Tony Contreras, you have had a truly remarkable career in the sugar industry for over fifty years. Starting with a Bachelors of Business Administration from University of Miami, you later received a Masters of International Management from Thunderbird Graduate School of Global Management in Phoenix, Arizona.

Your career began in 1974 at Gulf & Western Industries, then-owner of the Okeelanta Sugar Mill and Refinery and sugar operations in the Dominican Republic, where you served as Assistant Vice President of Marketing and Strategic Planning. In 1983, you joined Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida, where you rose to the position of President and CEO. You also served as Chairman of the Board and Co-President at ASR Group International ushering its expansion into Canada, Mexico, Belize, and Europe.

As part of the Cooperative's partnership with Florida Crystals, you were instrumental in the acquisition of Yonkers Refinery in 1998, Domino Sugar in 2001, C&H Sugar in 2005, Redpath Sugar in 2007 and Tate & Lyle Sugar in 2010.

You also played a key role in the negotiations of the Suspension Agreements between Mexico and the U.S., among other numerous exemplary contributions up until your retirement from Sugar Cane Grower Cooperative and ASR in 2022.

You held important leadership roles as a member of the board of managers of Tellus, as a director of the Florida Sugar & Molasses Exchange, and in D.C. as Director of the Sugar Association and the Florida Sugar Cane League.

You helped U.S. raw sugar producers move into the refined sugar business, as few people had your knowledge of global raw cane shipping patterns and how this impacted refining opportunities at the time. You have consistently and competently advanced the interests of the cane and beet sugar industries in the U.S. while promoting strong ties at federal agencies and on Capitol Hill.

Your ability to put people at ease and explain simply the issues we faced within our industry have been priceless. Your benevolent nature and quick smile never fail to make any encounter more positive. You have demonstrated integrity, skill and dedication every day of your impressive and illustrious career.

It is an honor to add your name to the roll of distinguished recipients of the Dyer Memorial Award.

**Tony Contreras**  
**The Industry Salutes You**  
**As the Winner of the**  
**Dyer Memorial Award**  
**2024**