

AWARDS

ACVS MERIT AWARD



**K. Jack Easley, DVM, MS
Diplomate, ABVP (Equine)
Diplomate, AVDC (Equine)**

The ACVS membership selected K. Jack Easley, DVM, MS, Diplomate, ABVP (Equine), Diplomate, AVDC (Equine), to receive the ACVS Merit Award. The award recognizes a non-ACVS Diplomate who has made major contributions to veterinary surgery through the development of methods, techniques, devices, and educational aspects of veterinary surgery.

During his postdoctoral surgery fellowship at Colorado State University, Dr. Easley recognized that equine dentistry was often overlooked, and veterinarians lacked understanding of the anatomy and diseases of the equine mouth and sinuses. To improve his and others' understanding of equine dentistry, Dr. Easley started his own practice to focus on dentistry and oral maxillofacial surgery.

During his career, Dr. Easley authored or co-authored 19 peer-reviewed publications, 35 book chapters, and over 50 published abstracts. He lectured at more than 150 local, state, national, and international meetings. Considered to be among the most recognizable names in equine veterinary medicine, he co-edited a textbook entitled *Equine Dentistry and Maxillofacial Surgery*, the most comprehensive textbook on equine dentistry and maxillofacial surgery ever published. He reviews publications for editorial review boards of *Veterinary Surgery*, *Equine Veterinary Journal*, *Equine Veterinary Education*, and *Journal of Veterinary Dentistry*.

For more than 25 years, Dr. Easley advanced knowledge in equine dentistry and dental surgery worldwide, committing yearly to hosting, training, and mentoring veterinary students and graduate veterinarians. This is particularly demonstrated through his continuing education efforts in Europe, South America, and Australia. Practitioners from these countries often visit his practice in Kentucky to learn routine and advanced equine dental procedures. Under his direction, veterinary schools have developed courses focusing on equine dentistry.

"He truly believes education is a two-way street and that knowledge is meant to not only share but pay forward. He achieved excellence as a veterinarian, maxillofacial surgeon, hospital owner, educator, and mentor as well as a husband/father—the latter being his most treasured achievement."

—Jeremiah Easley, DVM, DACVS (Large Animal)

The ACVS Merit Award provides an avenue for recognition of non-ACVS Diplomates who have made major contributions to the conduct of veterinary surgery through the development of methods, techniques, devices, and educational aspects of veterinary surgery.