Dru Mellon, RVT, CVT is NAVTA's 2020 Veterinary Technician of the Year

Dru Mellon, RVT, CVT, of Mountain West Veterinary Specialists, was named NAVTA’s 2020 Veterinary Technician of the Year at the association's recent annual general membership meeting.

The NAVTA Veterinary Technician of the Year Award is presented to a NAVTA member who has provided leadership and contributed to the association and the industry's overall betterment.

All NAVTA members can nominate a fellow member for this award. The NAVTA Executive Board assesses the nominees each December and selects a winner. "This year, we received some great nominations," said NAVTA President Ed Carlson, CVT, VTS (Nutrition). "In the end, though, the Executive Board agreed unanimously on this well-deserving person."

Carlson said Mellon was chosen because he exemplifies what it means to be a Veterinary Technician. "He is involved in his state VTA and is currently on the Board as Secretary," Carlson said. "He actively recruits new members and encourages them to get involved. And, he supports the VTA by offering virtual RACE CE, which was so critical during the Covid crisis."

But his greatest accomplishment, in the eyes of the NAVTA board, was his work in bringing Veterinary Technician credentialing to the State of Utah. "It cannot be understated what a huge accomplishment this was, and how difficult a task it was," Carlson said.

"This last year was an intensely trying one for everyone, particularly for all of us in the veterinary field. To be recognized by my colleagues in any year would be an overwhelming honor, but this honor is magnified even further after the year we all had. While I am proud to have contributed to everything we achieved here in Utah, everyone should take this as a reflection on the great work that all of us can (and do) accomplish as a part of a greater community. For all that I am credited with from this last year, none of it would have been possible without the collaboration of countless people across multiple veterinary associations. If you also desire to help advance the profession, then I encourage you to reach out to NAVTA or your state association and participate in the work already underway because there is still so much more we need to achieve together." – Dru Mellon, RVT, CVT

What Is NAVTA?
NAVTA is a dynamic community of credentialed veterinary technicians dedicated to advancing the profession of veterinary nursing through advocacy, awareness, and professional development. Learn more at www.navta.net