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Ag Lending Trail Author Dies

Charles M. Lewis, who wrote the Ag Lending Trail series for the *Journal*, died Dec. 3, 2001, in Columbus, Ohio. He was 75.

ABA's John Blanchfield contacted Lewis in 1994 and asked him to write about his travels across the United States when he retired from his position with FarmerMac. He contributed a quarterly column to the *Journal* through spring 2000.

Lewis received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., and served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He was a banker whose love of farming guided his career, during which he founded and served as president of the Feather River State Bank in Yuba City, Calif. While in Yuba City, he was active with the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce and the Boy Scouts, receiving the "Silver Beaver Award." He retired from the bank in 1991.

He later served as vice president of FarmerMac.

Lewis is survived by his wife of 16 years, Mary, seven children and stepchildren, and four grandchildren.