

DEATH OF TOM McCALL

Statement by Governor Vic Atiyeh:

"A great Oregon spirit today lies still.

"Few human beings in the history of our state more nobly embodied the values and the vision that built Oregon than Tom McCall. And few better served the state they loved.

"The breadth of his service to Oregon is difficult to comprehend. We remember his firm and decisive stewardship of our resources and our livability. We remember his high ideals translated into everyday reality that led the nation. And we remember him as a Governor and citizen of tremendous conscience, integrity, and outspoken independence; fearlessly speaking his mind whenever and wherever Oregon values were challenged or disparaged.

"I served with pleasure in the Oregon legislature during the McCall years. Like every Oregonian, I admired and respected him for his fierce independence of mind, his unique magnetism, and the special qualities of leadership that have left an indelible mark for the better upon the history of our state.

"The legacy of Tom McCall is an Oregon whose beauty and bounty have been preserved for generations to come. The challenge of Tom McCall is for us to join together to maintain that legacy.

"I hereby order all state flags lowered to half-staff until the funeral ceremonies for Governor McCall are concluded.

"On this day, I join with every citizen in mourning the passage of a great Oregonian."

VICTOR ATIYEH
GOVERNOR



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE CAPITOL
SALEM 97310

January 12, 1983

Statement by Governor Victor Atiyeh

Tom, it is terribly hard not to feel sad, not to feel a little bit lonely — not to feel an agonizing sense of loss. But in the spirit of your wishes, I also feel grateful for your life, am very proud that you were a product of Oregon and that, because of you, we all share the enormous joy of what God has given us.

You have not really gone, for in this room — and throughout this magnificent state — you still live. No one of us measures up to your grand scale, but we are here and collectively we love our state and the beauty of it as you did. And collectively, we will not let go all those virtues of which you spoke so brilliantly.

It might seem a little audacious of me, Tom, but I would like to answer a deep, nagging concern you once expressed. You said:

"I'm just living day to day, making speeches and challenging the know-nothings and trying to tell people that they're being heard again. And wondering where is the glow of yesteryear? Wondering where the heroes went. Gosh, I don't know how long ago they left.

"Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say: This is my community, and it's my responsibility to make it better. Interweave all these communities, and you really have an America that is back on its feet, a comfortable nation to live in again. I really think we're gonna have to reassess what constitutes a hero."

Wonder no more, Tom — you have shown us what constitutes a genuine hero.

Thank you — and God bless you.

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-DRAFT-

NATIONAL GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION WINTER MEETING

RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING FORMER OREGON GOVERNOR TOM McCALL

Whereas, Tom McCall will long be remembered for his fearless stewardship of Oregon's environment and livability; and

Whereas, Tom McCall's outspoken and independent style of leadership set a nationwide example of conscientious integrity, and the importance of preserving and protecting America's precious natural resources; and

Whereas, Tom McCall's vision and pragmatism were noted nationwide as he told the "Oregon Story" of energy conservation, clean air and water, sensible land use planning, and vigorous recycling; and

Whereas, Tom McCall will be remembered as a Governor and an American who deeply loved his state and his nation, who fearlessly spoke his mind and championed his beliefs, and who left an indelible mark for the better upon the history of Oregon and of the nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION ASSEMBLED IN WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR THE 1983 NATIONAL GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION WINTER MEETING, DO HEREBY EXPRESS OUR COLLECTIVE CONDOLENCES ON THE OCCASION OF THE PASSING OF FORMER OREGON GOVERNOR TOM McCALL, AND OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE McCALL FAMILY.

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McCall data

--- 30th Governor of Oregon JAN, 1967 - JAN, 1975

McCall on his 8 yrs (Portland City Club speech, 12/13/74)

Disappointments: Portland City Council 3-2 veto of Pacific Rim Center on Willam
3-2 loss at polls of school finance package (May, 73)

Trauma: fogbound in New York during March 68 OSP riot

Audacious memory: criticizing Spiro Agnew (1970), resulting in loss ^{sun valley, IDAHO} of RGA chairmanship (made remark at RGA) ^("rotten, bigoted speech") ("knife in his shoulder")

Bizarre & satisfying experience: Vortex (McIver Park, summer 1970)

Most dramatic act: banning outdoor lighting, winter 73-74

Greatest shock: that mother might run for Gov in 74

Greatest relief: that mother didn't run in 74

Atiyeh on McCall (Sept 74); (AOI appearance with Straub)

(Atiyeh not endorsed by McCall in 74) said M would have been re-elected overwhelmingly had constitution let him run again.. 'People don't always agree with McCall, but they have confidence in his integrity' (also VA said 'don't pin liberal or conservative labels' on candidates)

McCall Years (Early Deane piece, 12/22/74) "Open Door to Livability"

left office January 13, 1975...served longer as Governor (by 4 days) than any other Governor in (123) years of Oregon history

- o cleaned up Willamette
- o showed nation how to conserve energy with blackouts &
- o 55 mph speed limit
- o bottle bill
- o land use planning
- o stopped commercial development on beaches
- o drove tourists away with famous remark? Nope, probably brought more here..

AOI plaque says: Tom McCall: Oregon's Livability Governor

"...who has done more to restore, enhance and preserve the enviable environment of Oregon than any other man, whose concern for the state economy has led to consistent cooperation with business and industry, knowing the health of one is the success of the other, whose driving goal is to bequeath the beautiful Oregon country, preserved from pollution and prepared for progress to the generations to come"

- o born March 22, 1913...Egypt, Mass. on McCall estate (Dorothy Lawson McCall wanted children conceived in Oregon & brot to lit in Mass)
- o reared on family ranch near Prineville
- o earned his journalism spurs as reporter on Moscow, ID News-Review
- o met wife Audrey Owen in Moscow, 1939
- o came to Portland in 1942 (early WWII) as night beat reporter for Oregonian
- o named news director of KGW/KEX in 1944
- o served 1 year in Navy as combat correspondent (late 44-45)
- o went back to Oregonian, columnist; then political news analyst for KGW radio & TV
- o 1949, sworn in as Exec Sec. to Gov. Douglas McKay, held post for 3 years
- o 1954, ran for Congress from 3d district. Defeated incumbent in primary, but beaten by Edith Green in general

- o Open Door Governor
- o after Governorship "well -earned repose is not to be enjoyed" and he led active community life
- o emergency energy office before there was an emergency
- o odd-even license plate system
- o nation's first workable gasoline rationing plan

Of Passion & Pragmatism; the legacy of Tom McCall (Northwest Mgz, Sunday Ore, 11/7/82)

passion of a political visionary with pragmatism of a big-city political boss...

- o nation's tallest Governor, 6 feet, five inches (could never chin in Navy)
- o political vision to practical substance
- o Oregon's livability Governor
- o country's first bottle bill, cleaned Willamette river
- o supported workable method to save public access to beaches
- o dimmed outdoor lighting to save energy
- o forward-thinking efforts in land use planning
- o concern for fish & forests
- o first major Republican to speak his conscience (tangle publicly) with Spiro Agnew & Nixon administration
- o odd-even scheme to ease gas lines
- o non-partisan political appointments
- o supported tax reform
- o supported bike trails
- o election reform support
- o championed open meeting laws & press shield laws
- o supported the arts
- o real name: Thomas William Lawson McCall, Sr.
- o verbal skills: gut honesty, Eastern literacy with rural Oregon candor
- o ran for Secretary of State, 1964, and won.
- o elected Governor, 1966
- o (1954-66, KGW)
- o created Office of Ombudsman, 1969 for better citizen access
- o nurtured open meetings laws, started Open House tradition

Vic Atiyeh: "as Governor, Tom McCall was a real magnet. He would come up with an idea and attract people to that idea. It's a great attribute, and one that I admire greatly. He believed in his causes and worked hard for them.

I believe very strongly that when the history of the governors is written, among the very few that will be noted will be Tom McCall. In spite of th3e arguments we've had from time to time, he is a man I've always liked and always will like."

- o environment: TM made Oregon environment an issue long before pollution became a national issue. He wrote the script for "Pollution in Paradise" while he was running for Secretary of State in 1964.
- o Willamette Greenway: TM put task force to work (Glenn Jackson) rt after his Gov election in 1966. Yet Straub deserves full credit for proposal (during campaign, BS announced idea & TM endorsed it--& implemented it)
- o established DEQ
- o pushed comprehensive environmental laws
- o urged millions in state bonds for sewage, water, & solid waste treatment; boosted bike & hiking trails, spearheaded passage of the nation's first bottle bill, and inaugurated nation's first system of statewide land use planning
- o beaches: Os West(1911-13) did the beaches in '13, declaring a public highway of the wet sands...TM but dry sands to vegetation line remained open question...TM got OSU oceanographers to use 16 ft up/in from mean low tide line as measurement...was passed & upheld by Supreme Ct