

Gordon (Gordy) Lee – Adjournment in Memoriam 04.03.12

I adjourn today's meeting in memory of **Gordon (Gordy) Lee** of North Tustin, the grandfather of my Chief of Staff, Don Hughes. **Gordy**, as he was affectionately known, passed away in the early morning of Friday, March 30 at St. Joseph's Hospital. He was 78.

Born in Randolph, Massachusetts on May 22, 1933, Gordy was the ninth of ten children, and entered the work force at sixteen.

Gordy and his wife of 55 years, Gail, relocated to California in 1964. In 1966, Gordy co-founded VANS Tennis Shoes with two of his childhood friends.

During this period Gordy was strongly involved in many Catholic organizations. Belonging to Saint Barbara's Parish, he was on the Parish Council, Knights of Columbus, served as a member of The Legion of Mary as well as a Eucharistic Minister.

He was very proud of his involvement in organizing the beginning of Orange County's Cursillo movement and served as their President. He also enjoyed fundraising for the Boy Scouts and was La Quinta High School Booster Club President.

After 25 years in business, with Gordy at the helm as Company President, he and his partners sold VANS.

Along with his family, he relocated to North Tustin and, although retired, became more active in charitable activities. Their belief and hearts led them to many catholic philanthropic endeavors.

Gordy and his family donated to the construction of Santa Margarita Catholic High School, the Rosary High School gym, as well as both Connelly and Servite High Schools.

After many years of philanthropic activities, Gordy and Gail were honored as the 2nd King and Queen of Catholic Charities Mardi Gras Ball. In 2010, Gordy was inducted into the Mater Dei Ring of Honor.

Gordon loved to travel and playing golf, but nothing was more important to him than family.

He is survived by his five children – Debbie, Cindy, Gordon Jr., Geoff and Jessica; 13 grandchildren, including Don Hughes of my staff; and 9 Great-Grandchildren.

A Rosary and Vigil is being held today (Tuesday, April 3). The Viewing is from 6 to 7pm, with a vigil at 7:00pm at Mater Dei High School, Gordon and Gail Lee Family Chapel. A Funeral Mass will be held tomorrow (Wednesday, April 4) at 10 a.m. at La Purisima Catholic Church, Orange; and Burial to follow at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Orange.

I adjourn today's meeting in memory of **Gordon "Gordy" Lee** and ask that we extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends and loved ones for their loss, keeping in them in our prayers.