

T O R R A N C E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Torrance Sadly Announces the Sudden Passing of Previous City Manager Edward J. Ferraro

Torrance, Calif., April 3, 2007 – Torrance City Manager LeRoy J. Jackson sadly announces the sudden death of previous Torrance City Manager, Edward J. Ferraro. Ed peacefully died in his sleep on Monday, April 2, 2007. He was 79 years old. A memorial service will be held on **Thursday, April 5, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. at the Toyota Meeting Hall located in the Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3300 Civic Center Drive.** A reception will follow immediately.

Ed was the first city manager for the City of Lawndale and was the third city manager for the City of Torrance from 1964 through 1983. According to City Manager LeRoy J. Jackson, "Ed saw himself as the orchestra leader blending together the efforts of his department heads. He often spoke of himself as the tip of an iceberg who, while highly visible, was really part of a larger supporting mass. He was a manager of vision, innovation and a true leader. Much of what this organization is today sprout from the seeds Ed planted as City Manager".

Under his leadership, Torrance grew and matured as a major city and a balanced community. Through Ed Ferraro's vision and leadership, the City's planning department (now Community Development) earned the respect of the community and industry. His leadership established a framework for the budget by including the General Plan with program budgets. Ed's leadership for Torrance included planning for the Cultural Arts Complex, Telecommunications Center, Charles H. Wilson Park, Columbia Park, Southeast Torrance Library, and many other parks and facilities.

During his almost twenty-year tenure, Torrance's budget grew from \$10.5 million to more than \$61 million. Ed was instrumental in the commercial and manufacturing growth in the city including the addition of the Marriott Hotel, Holiday Inn, American Honda, Toyota Motor Sales, and the development and expansion of the Del Amo Fashion Center. His numerous accomplishments and leadership style earned him the Henry Reigning Award for outstanding administrative achievement and Clarence Dykstra Award for outstanding good government.

Subsequent to his retirement from Torrance, Ferraro tirelessly continued a life of public service. He served in various capacities at the City of Montebello, taught at colleges including Cal State University Long Beach, Cal State University Dominguez Hills, and University of Southern California. He founded South Bay Bank, served on the Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce, various commissions and board of directors, and mentored youth.

A resident of Seal Beach for the past ten years, Ferraro is survived by sons Michael and Vince, beloved fiancée Judith Gale Hardaker, her son Michael and many family and friends. Following Ed's wishes, the family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Carl E. Gordon Scholarship Fund, CSULA Office of Institutional Advancement, 5151 State University Drive ADM 809, Los Angeles, CA 90032.

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