



DEBATES OF THE SENATE

1st SESSION • 42nd PARLIAMENT • VOLUME 150 • NUMBER 194

TRIBUTES

THE LATE HONOURABLE DOUGLAS EVERETT

Statement by:

The Honourable Patricia Bovey

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

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THE LATE HONOURABLE DOUGLAS EVERETT

Hon. Patricia Bovey: Honourable senators, I rise today on behalf of the ISG and many Manitobans to pay tribute to the Hon. Douglas Everett, Manitoba senator from 1966 to 1994. A dedicated public servant, a visionary, innovative businessman, generous philanthropist, a true family man, and loyal and patriotic Winnipegger, Manitoban and Canadian, his accomplishments were many.

I was in my late teens when Prime Minister Pearson appointed him to the Senate at 39, becoming the youngest senator to be appointed by that time. Senator Everett, as he was to everyone through his 90 years, including his sons-in-law, was the uncle of one of my closest friends. My father made it very clear to me on his appointment day that I was to research all I could about the Senate, its role and what it meant to serve one's country. Every time I saw the senator afterward — and for the last couple of years it was frequent as we lived in the same building — I remembered my father's 1966 admonitions.

Chair of the Senate National Finance Committee for 14 years, Senator Everett authored five Senate finance reports. He became an independent senator in 1990, disagreeing with the GST stance of the Liberal Party. In his inaugural speech, he spoke of a senator's civic duty and role and that the Senate represented all Canadians. He echoed that in his last speech in this chamber, nine years before his seventy-fifth birthday.

Senator Everett served in the navy. He graduated from Royal Roads and earned a law degree from Osgoode Hall. He led the family business, Dominion Motors, for decades, and, an astute

businessman, he took the company's reach into new dimensions, including Domo Gas.

His generosity to the Winnipeg community spanned a number of fields. He was a truly knowledgeable and avid art collector, and, in the last several years, gave significant works to the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Last fall, 2017, the University of Manitoba bestowed its highest honour on him, an Honorary Doctorate of Laws, the same year he was inducted into the Manitoba Business Hall of Fame.

Above all, Senator Everett was a family man, their home always welcoming to friends of all generations. The multi-dimensions of Senator Everett were at the forefront at his funeral service and celebration of life, complete with the Air Force Band and songs of the many decades, which he loved so much. His sense of humour, love of nature, integrity, humility and stature were all evoked by family and friends, especially by those who had known him for 65 years and more.

It is a true honour for me to pay tribute to this committed visionary, who served this chamber for almost 30 years. In remembering him and his first wife Patty, of 66 years, I extend my condolences and those of the ISG to his wife Lila, whom he married last October, just after his ninetieth birthday, and to his six children, his stepchildren, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

His life was well lived and generously given of and one that will be remembered by many, at home and across this country.

Senator Everett, Doug, we thank you, and you will be missed.