



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Board President leaves legacy of laughter and life well-lived

LAKE FOREST, Calif., (Nov. 20, 2014) – The El Toro Water District (ETWD) mourns the loss of its Board President, Ted F. Martin who died Saturday, November 15, 2014. Martin served the District as a board member for 22 years and board president for the last 15 years.

“It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I inform you of President Martin's passing. There are those that leave this world with little or no regrets and I believe Ted to be one of them. All who knew him think of a man who loved to laugh and enjoyed a full, healthy and happy life,” said ETWD General Manager Bob Hill. “He was highly regarded and respected by our staff and his peers, Ted thoughtfully and passionately represented the interests of the District for over two decades and he could not have been more proud of the District's accomplishments and standing within the water industry. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and loved ones.”

In an outpouring of emails and notes sent to the District, leaders and members of the water district community expressed their sympathies to the ETWD family and reflected on Martin's life and contributions. They described Martin as, “a mentor,” “a good leader devoted to serving the people,” a man of “sweet humor,” “a leader in the truest sense,” “he always had a smile,” and “a significant South County water leader and a good friend.”

Martin began his service with ETWD in 1992. Under his leadership, some notable District accomplishments include seeing ETWD be acknowledged the first independent special water district to receive the prestigious District of Distinction accreditation followed by the Transparency Certificate of Excellence from the Special District Leadership Foundation, fostering collaborative mutually beneficial business service arrangements with neighboring agencies to enhance economies of scale, the regionalization and expansion of the El Toro Reservoir, the advancement of public communication and transparency through oversight of the District's quarterly Community Advisory Group and most recently the construction of a Recycled Water Expansion Project to improve local water supply reliability and reduce dependence on imported water.

In addition to Ted's accomplishments at ETWD, he was an engaged member serving on the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority, Santiago Aqueduct Commission, South Orange County Wastewater Authority, Independent Special Districts for Orange County and the South Orange County Agency Group.

Martin served as a Director of Materials for various Fortune 500 companies over the years encompassing electronic, medical and aerospace industries. He was also a long time member of the Laguna Hills/Saddleback Kiwanis Club, served on the Third Mutual Board in Laguna Woods Village and served on various Golden Rain Foundation committees.

President Martin provided unwavering leadership and dedication to El Toro Water District, the water industry and community he served and will be greatly missed.

The family has requested in lieu of flowers, donations to Saddleback Memorial Foundation can be made on Ted Martin's behalf. <https://memorialcare.thankyou4caring.org>. Please indicate "In memory of Ted Martin" under "Tribute Information."



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The El Toro Water District (ETWD), is a District of Distinction and holder of the Transparency Certificate of Excellence accredited by the Special District Leadership Foundation because of its commitment to good, transparent governance and to ethical and sound operating practices. ETWD provides full service potable water, wastewater and recycled water for use across portions of the cities of Aliso Viejo, Lake Forest, Laguna Hills and Mission Viejo and the entire city of Laguna Woods.