3-14-1973

Death of Alexander Warden

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.
Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/mansfield_speeches

Recommended Citation
https://scholarworks.umt.edu/mansfield_speeches/1090

This Speech is brought to you for free and open access by the Mike Mansfield Papers at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Mike Mansfield Speeches by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.
March 14, 1973

Statement of Senator Mike Mansfield (D. Mont.)

Death of Alexander Warden

Mr. President, a week ago a great Montanan and a good personal friend of mine, Alexander Warden, died in California where he was recuperating from a recent heart attack. Alex Warden is best known as the former owner and publisher of Montana's Daily newspaper, The Great Falls Tribune. He was not only active in the newspaper business but was widely known throughout the Nation because of his numerous positions of public service and association with corporate interests active in Montana.

I knew Alex Warden for many years and I considered him one of my very close confidantes in matters of Democratic politics and issues of importance to the Big Sky Country. While his activities have been somewhat limited in recent years because of his health, he will be sorely missed because his contributions have been many and I wish to take this inadequate means of paying tribute to Alex Warden. Mrs. Mansfield joins me in expressing our bereavement to his widow, Hebe, and his family, many of whom are still active in Montana affairs.
Mr. President, I ask that a news story and editorial appearing in the March 8th and 9th issues of The Great Falls Tribune be printed at this point of my remarks.
Alexander Warden, a former owner and publisher of the Great Falls Tribune and a key figure in Montana and national affairs, died Wednesday afternoon in a Palm Springs, Calif., hospital. He was 77.

He and his wife, Hebe, had been vacationing in Palm Desert, Calif., since Feb. 13. Warden had been hospitalized since he suffered a heart attack there 10 days ago. He had been in poor health several years. The family home is at 417 Riverview Court.

Funeral services will be in Great Falls.

Among numerous positions of public service Warden held was membership on the U.S. Citizens' Commission to NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization). He was appointed by Lyndon B. Johnson, then vice president, to the NATO Commission meeting in Paris in 1961.

On his return he commented, "If you are sleeping well, you might in your prayers give a slight vote of thanks to NATO, which is largely responsible for the fact we are not now in a world shooting war."

For 17 years Warden was on the board of the State Fair, which his father had helped to originate here.

Warden served at various times as director of the First National Bank, the Federal Reserve Bank of Min-

tary Club, Great Falls Concert Association and Meadow Lark Country Club. He also was a member of Sigma Delta Chi, Shrine Club and the Elks.

He had been a director of Western Airlines, Northwest Bancorporation, Buttrey Foods Inc., advisory board of Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Co., the Salvation Army advisory board, the C. M. Russell Gallery and the College of Great Falls.

He was a life member of the Montana Press Association, served as a member of the University of Montana advisory Council of 50 in emeritus capacity, and was named in 1968 to the Western Fair Panel.

He was the son of the late Oliver S. Warden and Etta Scott Warden and was born in Great Falls Feb. 7, 1896. His father was owner or co-owner of the Great Falls Tribune from 1913 to his death, except the paper was owned by William A. Clark, Butte mining tycoon.

Warden became publisher on his father's death in 1951 and remained publisher until April, 1965, when the Tribune and Leader were purchased by the Minneapolis Star and Tribune Co. A new corporation, the Great Falls Tribune Co., then was formed to operate the newspapers.

He was graduated from Great Falls High School in 1914, Phillips Exeter Academy in 1915 and received an A.B. degree at Dartmouth College in 1919. In World War I he served as an ensign in the Navy with the Atlantic Fleet.

On his return from Navy service, he became a reporter on the Tribune and was in the sports department when he covered the Downey-Gibbons fight at Shelby July 4, 1923. He became Tribune advertising manager in 1929 and when his father died became president and publisher of the Tribune and Leader.

Warden was married to Hebe P. Logget of Butte Feb. 20, 1923. He is survived by his widow; a son, Scott A. Warden, Helena; daughters, Mrs. Noel (Ashby) Hardy, Tucson, Ariz., and Nancy Kateen, Sacramento, Calif.; a brother, Robert D. Warden, Great Falls; sisters, Mrs. G. A. (Gertrude) Hansen, Great Falls, and Virginia Moral Boston; a half-brother, John Warden, Butte.
Alexander Warden, publisher of the Tribune and Leader from 1951 until May 1, 1965, played a significant role in the development of Great Falls and Montana.

His contributions to Great Falls and to the state extended far beyond his newspaper responsibilities.

He served with distinction on numerous financial, commercial, civic and cultural boards.

A man with a first-rate mind and a delightful sense of humor, Warden frowned on pomp and pretense. He preferred to be called “Alex.” He loved to listen to a well-told joke and admired a master story teller.

Alex Warden was a credit to the community and to the state.

Our deepest sympathy goes to his family.

And, as he said in his farewell Tribune editorial April 30, 1965, we say no to Alex Warden, “L’Envoi.”