

# OBITUARIES

*Continued from B10*

## David Brighton Timmins 1930 ~ 2008



David Brighton Timmins, 78, passed away peacefully on Wed., July 16, 2008.

He was the son of William Montana Timmins and Mary Brighton Timmins, born in Salt Lake City on May 21, 1930.

He was an Eagle Scout and loved working as a counselor at Boy Scout summer camps.

After graduating from East High School in 1947, he attended the University of Utah, with one year at Utah State University. He earned both a BS and MS from the U, where he was elected to Pi Sigma Alpha, the international political science honorary society and Omicron Delta Epsilon, the economics honor society. He was a Littauer Fellow at Harvard where he earned an MPA and PhD with honors.

David served from 1949 to 1951 in the British LDS Mission, where he was president of the Scottish District. His first professional job was as statistician for the State of Utah in the administration of Governor J. Bracken Lee.

David married Laurel Mae Nelson of Morgan, Utah in 1952. They had four children. They were later divorced. In 1978, David married Lola Ann Gygi of Salt Lake City.

David spent most of his life abroad as a career officer in the U.S. Foreign Service with postings to the UK, France, Iceland, Madrid, Morocco, and Guatemala. He had several assignments at the State Department in Washington, D.C., including a tour as a member of the Board of Examiners.

During a two-year leave of absence from the State Department, Dr. Timmins organized and staffed an independent Department of Economics at Weber State University, achieving accreditation by the American Academy of Collegiate Schools of Business.

Dr. Timmins' PhD dissertation on the newly created Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development was published in book form on the silver anniversary of the OECD, the first analytical treatment of this important organization. He was later assigned to USOECD.

He was Executive Assistant and Secretary of Delegation to the NATO Ambassador and later chief

of Economic Section at the American Embassy in Madrid.

As Deputy Director of the Bureau of Economic Research in Washington, he briefed the Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, predicting the embargo of the OPEC oil cartel and organizing an international seminar on the emerging problem of multi-national corporations, writing the summary and foreword for the seminar's collected papers.

As senior economist in the State Department's Office of International Monetary Affairs, he wrote the International Finance section of the Council of International Economic Policy Annual Reports to the President.

During his assignment as Deputy Director of the Office of European Political-Economic Affairs, Dr. Timmins made regular trips to Paris, Brussels, and London to coordinate the activities of the OECD, NATO and the European Union.

Following his retirement, he accompanied Lola on her Foreign Service assignments to France, Mexico, Beijing, Romania, and Geneva, Switzerland. He enjoyed teaching International Finance and Economics at universities in Washington, DC, Maryland, Virginia, Guatemala, Mexico, and Geneva. Upon their return to Utah, he taught at BYU-SLC for several years. In 1996 he ran for Congress from Utah's Second District.

He was an active member of the LDS Church, and had many opportunities to serve in various capacities overseas, including serving in several bishoprics, district presidencies and high councils, in the stake presidency in Guatemala, and as a counselor in the mission presidency in Romania. He also served on the high councils of Boston, Washington, D.C., Guatemala and Paris. While in Madrid, he had the privilege of escorting Elders Howard W. Hunter and Gordon B. Hinckley on their visits to US Embassy and Spanish government officials to petition for recognition under the new religious liberty law. He was called as president of the first indigenous Spanish Branch of the LDS Church in Madrid. He had the privilege of signing the application for recognition of the LDS Church under Spain's new religious liberty law, while continuing to serve in the district presidency.

Dr. Timmins was an able toastmaster. He and his wife have been active participants in the Boyer British Mission reunions, in the Ensign Club, and as members of the Foreign Service Retirees of Utah. He participated regularly in meetings of Swiss, Chinese, Romanian, and Scottish groups, and a monthly luncheon with a group of University of Utah Kappa Sigma brothers.

David was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, William Montana Timmins, Jr., brothers-in-law, Wallace N. Gygi and Dr. Paul M. Smith, and sister-in-law, Devin Timmins. He is survived by his Lola, sisters, Margaret Bailey (Robert B.), Verna Smith and a brother, James Stuart Timmins, children, Mark David, Robert William (Karen), Karen Marie Brown (Blaine), Catherine Margaret McGreevy (Patrick), 16 grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, July 21 at 11 a.m. the Ensign Peak Ward at 125 North Sandrun Road (East Capitol Blvd and 940 North) on Capitol Hill. Viewings will be held on Sunday evening from 6 to 8 at the Larkin Mortuary at 300 East South Temple, and at the Ensign Peak Ward on Monday beginning at 9:30 a.m. Interment will be in the family plot in the Smithfield City Cemetery.

# Readers' forum

## Thanks for publishing letters

My father, David Brighton Timmins, passed away on July 16. Over the past several years since he retired from the federal government as a foreign-service officer, he took great pleasure in voicing his opinions on diverse subjects in the Readers' Forum. He wrote in as a way to get grass-roots support for ideas near and dear to his heart. He also enjoyed educating the public if he felt there was an unheard side to an issue. He took great pleasure when some of his ideas took root and changed public policy.

As his family, we thank you for publishing his letters. Those who knew my father always got a kick out of reading his latest thoughts.

**Karen Timmins Brown**

Provo

# Former diplomat David Timmins dies

David Brighton Timmins, a former U.S. diplomat, died Wednesday. He was 78.

During a well-traveled, 32-year career as a U.S. foreign-service officer, Mr. Timmins held posts in the United Kingdom, France, Ireland, Morocco, Guatemala and Spain, where he served as a counselor at the U.S.

Embassy in the 1970s.

While on a two-year leave of absence from the U.S. State Department, Mr. Timmins organized and staffed Weber State University's economics department, helping it achieve national accreditation.

Mr. Timmins also launched an unsuccessful bid for

Utah's 2nd Congressional District in 1996, running on a platform that promised to fight for a balanced budget and term limits for congressmen.

Mr. Timmins was raised and educated in Salt Lake City, graduating from East High School and the University of Utah. He later earned

his Ph.D. from Harvard.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. today at the Ensign Peak LDS Church, 125 N. Sandrun Road, on Capitol Hill. A viewing will be held at 9:30 a.m.

Mr. Timmins will be buried in the Smithfield City Cemetery.