



County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors



SUPERVISOR WARREN MAX DORN

Term: 1956 - 1968
District: Fifth
Date of Birth: Sept. 19, 1918
Date of Death: Jan. 10, 2006

Warren Max Dorn served four terms as county supervisor beginning in December of 1956. He was reelected to office in 1960, 1964 and again in 1968.

Born in Pasadena Sept. 19, 1918, Dorn received his formal education in the Pasadena school system. After his graduation from John Muir High School and Pasadena Junior College, he completed his studies at Santa Barbara State College.

A former schoolteacher and realtor, Dorn entered politics in 1949 as a member of the Board of Directors of the City of Pasadena. He served on the Board until he was elected county supervisor in 1956. During his service to the City of Pasadena, he served as mayor and participated actively in inter-city matters with the League of California Cities.

He is credited with pursuing strict enforcement of air pollution standards resulting in the County being recognized as having the most effective air pollution control program in the nation; spearheaded the creation of the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Commission and the County Commission on Alcoholism; created legislation improving treatment and services for patients of county hospitals and expansion of facilities; helped establish two new airports, Brackett Field and William J. Fox Airfield; and was instrumental in putting County departments on a pay-as-you-go, self-supporting basis, which brought about the first major property tax relief program in the history of the County.

Honors included memberships in the Salvation Army; Pasadena Elks, Rotary Club; Pasadena Chamber of Commerce and the Tournament of Roses Association; Pasadena College Advisory Council and the Pasadena Presbyterian Church. Dorn served as chairman of the Board of Supervisors in 1963 and 1964, and was vice president of the statewide County Supervisors Association of California.

He married Phyllis Wilson and they had three children: Dan, Robert and Jennifer. Upon his retirement from the Board of Supervisors, he and his wife moved to Morro Bay, where he was elected mayor in 1980. He died Jan. 10, 2006 of pneumonia at age 87.

Sources: Los Angeles County Records; Santa Clarita Valley History in Pictures.