



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Yucaipa Mourns the Passing of Former Mayor Dick Riddell

YUCAIPA, Calif. — The City of Yucaipa joins family, friends, and the community in mourning the passing of former Mayor and longtime City Councilmember Dick Riddell, whose decades of dedicated public service and unwavering commitment to the community helped shape the City of Yucaipa into the beautiful community it is today.

A proud veteran of the Naval Armed Guard during World War II, Dick Riddell answered the call to serve his country before dedicating much of his life to serving the residents of Yucaipa. His legacy of leadership, integrity, and civic responsibility leaves an enduring impact on the City and the region.

"Dick Riddell exemplified what it means to be a public servant," said Mayor Chris Venable. "For more than two decades, he led with integrity, humility, and a steadfast commitment to the people of Yucaipa. His vision and dedication helped shape our community, and his legacy will continue to inspire future generations. On behalf of the City Council and the entire Yucaipa community, we extend our heartfelt condolences to Dick's family and loved ones."

Dick was first elected to the Yucaipa City Council on June 6, 1995, and was re-elected in 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, and 2016, serving over 26 consecutive years as a City Councilmember. His fellow Councilmembers appointed him to serve as Mayor from December 9, 1996, through December 8, 2008, and again beginning December 12, 2016.

During his tenure, Dick represented Yucaipa on numerous local and regional boards and committees, including the American Legion, California Oak Foundation, Crafton Hills Open Space Conservancy, Omnitrans Board of Directors, Omnitrans Planning Committee, San Bernardino Association of Governments (SANBAG) Board of Directors, SANBAG Major Projects Committee, SANBAG Plans and Programs Committee, San Bernardino County Flood Control Advisory Commission, Yucaipa Valley Conservancy, Yucaipa Historical Society, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Knights of Columbus, and many other organizations dedicated to serving the community.

Dick's leadership helped guide the City through years of thoughtful growth while maintaining a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility and sound planning. He was instrumental in advancing the Oak Glen Road/Interstate 10 Interchange, helping facilitate the Project Advancement Agreement that enabled construction of the interchange years ahead of schedule. His leadership also contributed significantly to the

planning, design, and construction of many public facilities including the Yucaipa Transit Center, Fire Station 3, the Police Station and many flood control projects, reflecting his longstanding commitment to the residents of the City of Yucaipa.

A passionate advocate for preserving Yucaipa's natural resources, Dick played a key role in the creation of a State Park in Park in Yucaipa, Wildwood Canyon State Park and City's El Dorado Ranch Park, ensuring that future generations would continue to enjoy the City's open spaces and scenic beauty.

Throughout his years in public office, Dick earned the respect of colleagues and residents alike through his ethical approach to leadership, his willingness to listen, and his belief in leading by example. His commitment to the best interests of the community was evident in every decision he made and every project he championed.

The City of Yucaipa extends its deepest sympathies to the Riddell family, his friends, former colleagues, and all who had the privilege of knowing him. Dick Riddell's legacy of service, leadership, and dedication to the City of Yucaipa will be remembered with gratitude for generations to come.