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## DONALD D. LORENZEN

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1003 CITY HALL

The Honorable Donald D. Lorenzen, currently serving as the Councilman for Los Angeles's Third Councilmanic District, has and does lead a life that exemplifies dedication to ones family, community and country.

Councilman Lorenzen was born January 22, 1920 in Elgin, North Dakota, to Doctor and Mrs. Frederick C. Lorenzen. Dr. Lorenzen, a Danish immigrant, had his practice in Elgin, a farming community of approximately 500 people.

Mr. Lorenzen's formal education includes diplomas from: Elgin High School; Jamestown College; Glendale City College; and the California College of Mortuary Science.

Donald D. Lorenzen married Virginia Laux of San Antonio, Texas, on October 2, 1940. They have two sons: David Carl, 17, who is currently attending Chaminade Preparatory School; and Jon Robert, 13, a member of the eighth grade class at St. Joseph the Worker School in the West San Fernando Valley.

Councilman Lorenzen served in the Air Force during World War II. His interest in aviation has carried over into civilian life for he owns and flies his own twin engine aircraft for business as well as one of his prime recreational pursuits.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzen moved to the San Fernando Valley in 1946, and established their current residence in 1952 in the West Valley community of Reseda.

Mr. Lorenzen's principal occupation is that of a mortician, although he also has other major business interests in Southern California. Mr. Lorenzen is the founder and President of Lorenzen Mortuary, Inc., the only independently owned West Valley mortuary. He is also a founder and director of a nationally chartered bank that has branches in the San Fernando Valley, Marina Del Rey, and the Civic Center area. Mr. Lorenzen also serves on the Board of Directors and as President of two other California corporations. Mr. Lorenzen also serves as President and a member of the Board of Trustees for a major San Fernando Valley hospital.

Councilman Lorenzen is noted for his straight-forward, forthright approach. He addresses himself directly to the problem at hand and pursues the solution with what some refer to as "bull dog determination and tenacity".

Donald D. Lorenzen has always found time for numerous civic and community service undertakings, a partial list includes: American Legion Post 308, served as Vice Commander; West Valley Y.M.C.A. Advisory Board, served as Chairman of Initial Building Program; Masonic Lodge 666, served as a member of the Building Committee; Loyal Order of Moose; Reseda Adult High School, member of the Board of Directors; Reseda Chamber of Commerce, member of

the Board of Directors for many years and served as President during 1957-1958; San Fernando Valley Associated Chambers of Commerce, served as President 1961-1962; Fernando Award Committee, served as a member of the Board of Directors since 1963; Southern California Rapid Transit Development Foundation, Inc., served as Treasurer; Citizens for Freeways and Highways, served as Reseda Chairman; Flying Funeral Directors of America; San Fernando Valley Business and Professional Association; Mortician's Civil Defense Coordinato: for the Los Angeles Coroner; San Fernando Valley Industrial Association, Served as a member of the Board of Directors; Valley-Wide Better Government Committee, served as President; Valley Streets and Highways, served as a member of the Executive Board; Salvation Army Advisory Board, served as Chairman; Community Chest, served as the Reseda Chairman and a member of the Board of Governors; West Valley Junior Chamber of Commerce, Vice President and Charter Member; West Valley Little League, founder and initial Chairman; San Fernando Valley Youth Foundation, member of the Board of Directors; Encino Community Youth Center, member of the Board of Directors; Project Hope, served as President and Vice-President of San Fernando Chapter; Project Hope Western Regional District, member of the Board of Directors; California College of Mortuary Science, serves as a lecturer.

For his service to his community and various industries, Mr. Lorenzen has received numerous commendations, a partial list includes: "Young Man of the Year", the Distinguished Service Award from the Reseda Junior Chamber of Commerce; "Good Citizen's Award", from the Citizen News; recognition from American Airlines for his service to air transportation: "Community Service Award" from the Reseda Junior Chamber of Commerce; "Man of the Year" Award from the West Valley Associated Chambers of Commerce; "Fernando Award" in 1963, an award presented annually by the twenty-eight San Fernando Valley Chambers of Commerce to a Valley resident whose civic endeavors are deemed to have contributed greatly to the well being and betterment of the San Fernando Valley; "Conquistadores Award" presented annually by Bullocks for outstanding service in business; "William G. Lauesen Award"; Citation for Meratorious Service from the American Legion; "Certificate of Appreciation" from the United States Navy Recruiting Service; "Citizen of the Year" from the West Valley Business and Professional Association; Citation for Outstanding Service from the City of Hope.

Councilman Lorenzen does not have a great deal of time for his personal hobbies and interests which include flying and motion picture photography.

It can accurately be said that Councilman Lorenzen's primary hobby is helping and doing things for his community and city. It is this devotion to the betterment of the area in which he and his family lives that prompted Don Lorenzen to become a candidate in January of 1969 for public office.

Mr. Lorenzen felt that he could be more effective as a public official in achieving desired changes and improvements for the

San Fernando Valley, and the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area. Prior to his filing as a councilmanic candidate in 1969, Donald D. Lorenzen had never been active in politics on either a local, county state or federal level.

He was not considered a prime contender in his bid to become Los Angeles's Third District Councilman; but the citizens of that West Valley District knew the man, recognized his abilities, his stature and devotion to the free enterprise philosophy that is coupled with a desire for good government. He won his election by more than 75% of the total votes cast for the office during the General Election held in May of 1969.

A newspaper reporter aptly summed up this man when he recently wrote: "Councilman Don Lorenzen may be a freshman to City Hall observers, but he is a veteran at business success and making friends. He's a non-nonsense and direct man with the kind of sense of humor that destroys the pompous in a hurry, and identifies him with people from all strata of life."

## CALIFORNIA BIOGRAPHY FILE A

## LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCILMAN

Councilman for the 3rd District

Term: 4 years

Salary: \$17,000

Name: Donald D. Lorenzen

Birthplace & date: Born in Elgin, North Dakota, Jan. 22, 1920.

Age at time of election: 49

Personal data: Married, Virginia Laux of San Antonio, Texas, father of 2 sons, David Carl, 17, and Jon Robert, 13.

Education: Elgin High School; Jamestown College; Glendale City College; and the California College of Mortuary Science.

Militarys Served in the Air Force during World War II.

Professional data: Founder and President of Lorenzen Mortuary,
Inc.; Founder and Director of Surety National Bank;
President and a member of the Board of Trustees for West
Valley Community Hospital; Elected to the L.A. City Council
in the May 1969 election. California College of Mortuary Science:
Lecturer

Organizations: San Fernando Valley Business and Professional Association; Mortician's Civil Defense Coordinator for the Los Angeles Coroner; West Valley Junior Chamber of Commerce, Vice President and Charter Member; West Valley Little League, founder and initial Chairman; San Fernando Valley Youth Foundation, member of the Board of Directors; Encino Community Youth Center, member of the Board of Directors; Project Hope Western Regional District, member of the Board of Directors.

Source: Councilman Lorenzen's Office