



Governor Bill Richardson Renames Center for Museum Resources In Honor Of Former Secretary of Interior Stewart L. Udall

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SANTA FE- Governor Bill Richardson today renamed the Center for Museum Resources in Santa Fe in honor of Former Secretary of Interior Stewart L. Udall. The building, located on Museum Hill in Santa Fe, will now be known as “Stewart L. Udall Center for Museum Resources”.

Here are Governor Richardson’s prepared remarks:

“Today we are here to pay tribute to a man who has truly been a loyal friend to our nation, our state, our diverse culture, all its peoples, our heritage and our environment.

Stewart Lee Udall was born and raised in St. Johns, Arizona, a rural town which developed into a Mormon community founded by his grandfather.

Stewart is known for his passion for helping others. So it was no surprise that during his studies at the University of Arizona, he left to serve as a Mormon missionary in New York and Pennsylvania for two years. Stewart also served his country as a gunner in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II.

When the war was over, he returned to the University of Arizona and played on the school’s first basketball team to compete at the National Invitational Tournament in Madison Square Garden.

In 1954, Stewart was elected to the House of Representatives where he represented Arizona for three consecutive terms.

Of course Stewart Udall is perhaps best known as the U.S. Secretary of Interior - a post he held for nine years. He was appointed by President Kennedy, and distinguished

himself as a champion of the environment. During his tenure, he helped create the Wilderness Bill, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. He also led an unprecedented expansion of the National Park System.

Our state is a star in our nation for all its assets: cultural diversity, history, heritage, arts and industry. One man and his family, in particular, have helped to preserve the unique character and singular status of the great Southwest in America.

Stewart, today I am proud to honor the Center for Museum Resources with your name. Your lifetime of dedication to public service has empowered us, protected us and set the groundwork for a rich future.

Please join me in congratulating, and thanking Stewart Udall, as I officially designate this building the **Stewart L. Udall Center for Museum Resources.**”

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