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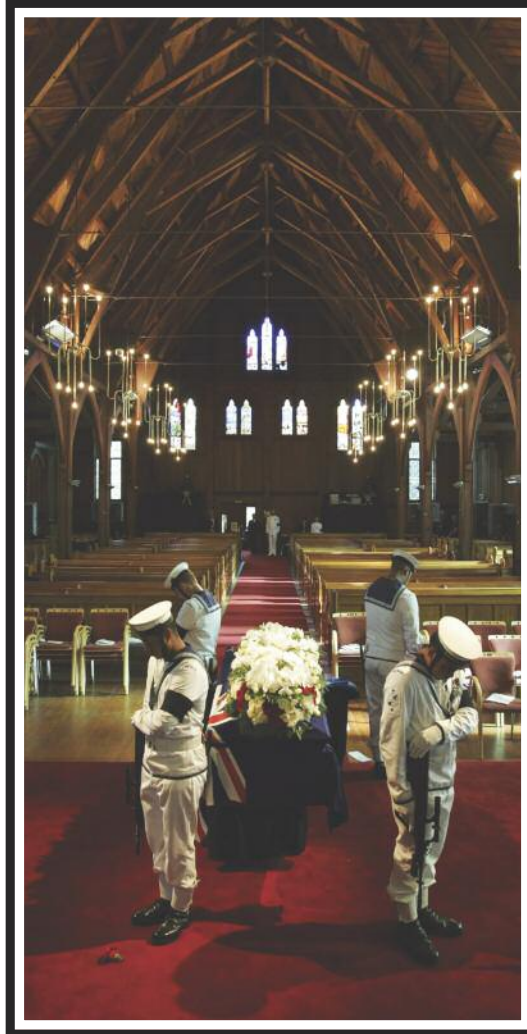
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REMEMBERING OUR FRIEND AND CO-FOUNDER, The Late

SIR EDMUND HILLARY, KG ONZ KBE



It was three years ago on January 11, 2008 that Sir Edmund Hillary died. Sir Edmund was admired as a World Famous Mountaineer, Explorer, Diplomat, Humanitarian and Environmentalist, yet to many of us who knew him well; it was his friendship and dedication to the Sherpa people of the Solu Khumbu region of Nepal, that we admired most.

Sir Ed led a good and full life, not only helping his own causes but others too. He was deeply involved with UNICEF and was their representative to the "Children of the Himalayans". He was Honorary President of the Explorers Club, (New York).

He rose from being a humble New Zealand Beekeeper to a Knight of the Order of the Garter, a High Commissioner for his country and a well respected, knowledgeable human being in many other areas including the world environment.

His decorations and citations include:

- Order of New Zealand
- Founders medal of the Royal Geographical Society
- Hubbard Medal of the National Geographical Society
- Polar Medal
- Commander Merite et Sportif
- Star of Nepal (1st Class)

It is with fond memories that we, his close friends, reflect on his passing with one thankful thought: having had him as a close confidant and friend for 35 years.

I ask all who read this article, to join us in honouring Sir Edmund who did so much for his fellow man. Sir Ed, we salute you and restate our promise to keep helping the Sherpa people in Nepal. We made this promise to you those 38 years ago, when you asked us to help you, help the Sherpas.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and all Canadians

W. (Zeke) O'Connor
Founder and Executive Director

Karen O'Connor
President

SIR EDMUND HILLARY, JULY 20, 1919 - JANUARY 11, 2008



Photograph by George Lowe/Royal Geographical Society

“I HAVE HAD THE WORLD LIE BENEATH MY CLUMSY BOOTS AND SAW THE RED SUN SLIP OVER THE HORIZON, AFTER THE DARK ANTARCTIC WINTER. I HAVE BEEN GIVEN MORE THAN MY SHARE OF EXCITEMENT, BEAUTY, LAUGHTER AND FRIENDSHIP. EACH OF US HAD TO DISCOVER HIS OWN PATH – OF THAT I AM SURE. SOME PATHS WILL BE SPECTACULAR AND OTHERS PEACEFUL AND QUIET. WHO IS TO SAY WHICH IS THE MOST IMPORTANT? FOR ME THE MOST REWARDING MOMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN TO THE GREAT MOMENTS – FOR WHAT CAN SURPASS A TEAR ON YOUR DEPARTURE, JOY ON YOUR RETURN, OR A TRUSTING HAND IN YOURS?”

SIR EDMUND HILLARY

Thank you for your Continued Support