

CITY OF LA PALMA

NEWS RELEASE

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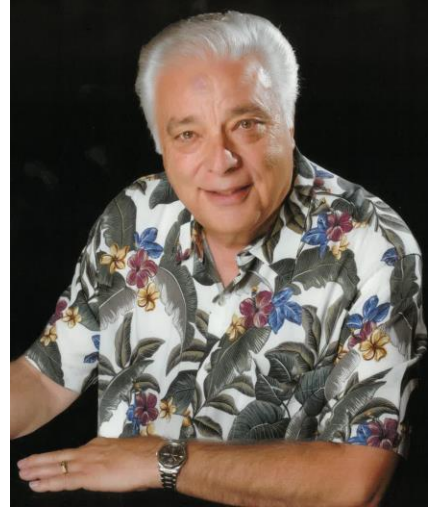
For Immediate Release
January 31, 2018

La Palma Mourns Passing of Former Mayor Polis

LA PALMA, Calif. – Former Mayor Richard Thomas Polis, who served on the La Palma City Council from 1984-1992 passed away January 30, following an extended illness. Mayor Polis' family members informed city officials of his passing. He was 76 years old.

Richard Polis, born on June 7, 1941, lived a life of service to his country and his City. He served the United States in the 6th Army from December 1963 through November 1969 where he was an E5 expert rifleman and earned a Letter of Commendation.

In 1984, Polis was elected to the La Palma City Council, where he served as Mayor in 1986-1987. He campaigned on the promise of bringing cable television to La Palma. Polis was one of the founders of the La Palma Days Parade and Festival, and served on the Parade Committee for over 25 years. He also served on the Centerpointe Committee where he was instrumental in the development and building of La Palma's largest commercial center. In 1986, while serving as Acting Mayor, he led the recovery effort for La Palma during of the Cerritos Air Crash. He also served on the League of California Cities.



In addition, Polis served the John F. Kennedy High School marching band from 1982-1987, where he was a member of the Board. In 1986 he served as an Ambassador to Ireland, where he received a Key to the City, traditionally given to dignitaries, in exchange for a key to La Palma, while chaperoning the Kennedy High School's performance in Ireland.

Mayor Gerard Goedhart stated "La Palma mourns the passing of former Mayor Richard Polis. He served the City well during his time on the City Council. He worked hard in seeing the development of Centerpointe which remains the focal point of the city's business district. He deeply cared about the City and we are better off because of his service to it."

He is survived by his wife, Jacklyn L. Polis of 52 years, his two children Gina and Todd, and six grandchildren.

About the City of La Palma

Ranked by Money Magazine in 2015, 2013, 2011, and 2007 as one of America's Best Places to Live, the City of La Palma is a 1.9 square mile general law city in northwest Orange County, consisting of 15,568 residents and approximately 300 commercial and industrial businesses. The City was incorporated in 1955 under the name of Dairyland and has 55 full-time and 35 part-time employees.

Contact Information

Cindy Robinson, Assistant to the City Manager
City of La Palma
7822 Walker Street
La Palma, CA 90623
Tel: (714) 690-3337
Fax: (714) 523-2141
Email: CindyR@Cityoflapalma.org

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