



NEWS RELEASE

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Township mourns passing of The Woodlands Founder George P. Mitchell

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (July 26, 2013) – Upon learning of the death of The Woodlands founder George P. Mitchell, The Woodlands Township issued the following statement.

“We are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. Mitchell,” said Township Chairman Bruce Tough. “We learned of his passing during our Township meeting this morning and stopped to recognize, honor and remember Mr. Mitchell and his legacy. The Woodlands would not be The Woodlands without Mr. Mitchell.”

Mr. Tough continued, “George Mitchell had a dream of a hometown where thousands of people would live, work, play and learn. We have been so fortunate to live that dream, along with nearly 110,000 residents and 2,000 businesses who call The Woodlands home and who benefit from Mr. Mitchell’s original dream and his hard work every day. On behalf of The Woodlands Township and all of us here, we extend our deepest sympathies to the Mitchell family.”

“We owe so much of what we have to Mr. Mitchell,” said Township Vice Chairman Peggy S. Hausman. “We have always looked to him for his vision and his leadership. We will always remember what he has made possible for us, and he will be greatly missed. We extend our heartfelt sorrow and sympathies to the Mitchell family.”

Mrs. Hausman, a resident of The Woodlands since 1980, remembered having breakfast with Mr. Mitchell every Friday morning during the transition of developer-control to resident-control of The Woodlands. “He was so supportive,” she said, “and always emphasized that The Woodlands should be a hometown for everyone. The Woodlands is his vision, and we will always do our best to maintain it,” she said.

The Woodlands Township can be reached at www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov, or 281-210-3800.



PHOTO: Founder of The Woodlands, George Mitchell, center, received a proclamation from The Woodlands Township in January 2010 declaring April 29, 2010, as Cynthia Woods Mitchell Day, following Cynthia's passing in late 2009. The Woodlands Township Chairman at that time, Nelda Luce Blair, left, presented Mr. Mitchell with the proclamation, along with Township President and General Manager Don Norrell at The Woodlands Township meeting on January 27, 2010.

Statement from the Mitchell Family

Galveston, Texas (July 26, 2013)—We are deeply saddened to announce that George Phydias Mitchell passed away today. He died of natural causes in Galveston surrounded by his family. His story was quintessentially American.

George P. Mitchell was raised as a child of meager means who, throughout his life, believed in giving back to the community that made his success possible and lending a hand to the less fortunate struggling to reach their potential.

He married Cynthia Woods Mitchell, and, together, they raised 10 children and collaborated on myriad projects—all dedicated to making the world a more hospitable and sustainable place. Cynthia passed away in 2009.

He will be fondly remembered for flying in the face of convention—focusing on ‘what could be,’ with boundless determination—many times fighting through waves of skepticism and opposition to achieve his vision.

Whether it was graduating first in his class at Texas A&M University, developing the first master-planned community, pioneering the technology that unleashed the shale gas boom, working to create a more sustainable planet, restoring the historic area of Galveston, or just fishing with his family, he had the right mix of vision, optimism, and tenacity, and a love for his fellow man.

We are and will forever be grateful for the gift of this remarkable life. There’s no doubt that he helped make this world a better place.

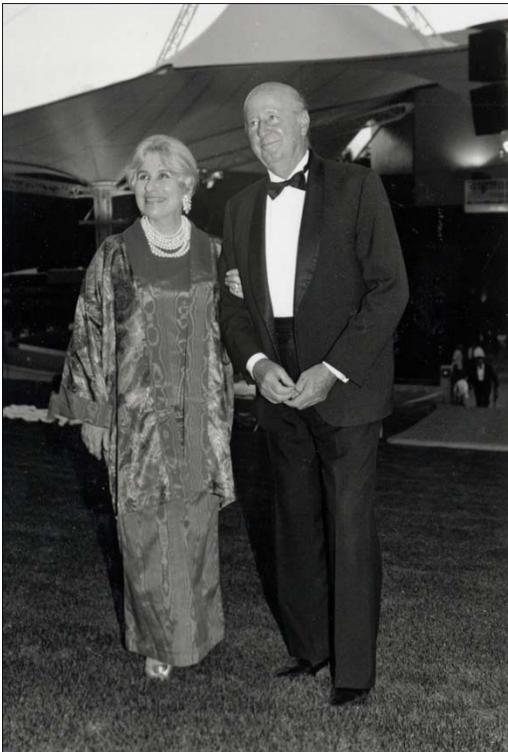
For additional information, please visit the Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation website at www.cgmf.org.

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Photos and Memories



Statue of George Mitchell in Town Green Park in The Woodlands.



The Mitchells at the Grand Opening of the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion in 1990.



George Mitchell at the announcement of The Woodlands Town Center.

Remembrances from Community Leaders



George Mitchell visits with the ladies at The Woodlands Country Club.
-Township Vice Chairman Peggy S. Hausman



Pictured are Peggy Hausman and George Mitchell at a Woodlands Community Association Annual Meeting in 1998. Mrs. Hausman, who was president of the WCA at the time, presented a ceremonial key to The Woodlands on behalf of residents, following the sale of The Woodlands.
-Township Vice Chairman Peggy S. Hausman



My wife and I moved to The Woodlands based on the vision laid out by Mr. Mitchell. I know he should be proud of and comforted that his vision, legend and legacy will forever be memorialized by The Woodland's success. The Woodlands Township board has approved celebrating The Woodlands 40th anniversary next October 19th as a founders day celebration. I look forward to including community activities that uphold his vision and educate everyone on The Woodlands history. It takes eight Villages to make The Woodlands Township and one George Mitchell to create it.

-Township Treasurer Gordy Bunch