

Press Releases

01-25-11 Orange County Exec Mourns Passing of George Shepard

It is with great sadness that Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana recognizes the passing of George Shepard, a true friend to Orange County residents, visionary for Orange County Community College, and supporter of our many not-for-profit organizations.

“George was an Orange County icon, and a close personal friend to me, my Aunt Mary, my brother Michael, and many others in the Diana family,” said Mr. Diana. “He had great vision and compassion and was committed to making Orange County the great place to live, work, and raise a family that it is today.”

“His efforts, as part of the Committee on Higher Education, gave us Orange County Community College more than 50 years ago and laid the foundation for the outstanding educational institution we now know as SUNY Orange. I’m pleased that in George’s lifetime the college he loved so much grew to two full campuses serving our community,” added the County Executive.

“A dedicated advocate for the County, George led by example and served as mentor and role model to many -- he will be greatly missed. The Diana family joins with our entire Orange County family in mourning the passing of this legendary educator. May he rest in peace,” Mr. Diana said.