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By FRANK LYNN
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HARRIMAN LAUDED ON STATESMANSHIP

Mourners Pay Tribute to Him and a Career in Diplomacy Spanning Half Century

By FRANK LYNN

W. Averell Harriman was mourned, celebrated and honored yesterday at funeral services that attracted some of the leading officials of the nation, the state and the city — testimony to a career that spanned more than half a century and the whole world.

Mr. Harriman, a former Governor of New York who was better known for his service as diplomat, foreign policy negotiator, Cabinet member and adviser to four Presidents, died at his home in Yorktown Heights, N.Y., Saturday of kidney failure complicated by pneumonia. He was 94 years old.

He was Ambassador to the Soviet Union and Britain and an Ambassador at-large. He negotiated the nuclear test ban treaty, was an adviser to Franklin D. Roosevelt at Teheran and Yalta and played a key role in Vietnam peace talks a quarter of a century later.

Mr. Harriman administered the National Recovery Administration during the Depression and the Marsall Plan in post-World War II Europe. He knew every Soviet leader from Leon Trotsky to Yuri V. Andropov, the former Communist Party general secretary whom he visited in 1983.

As a private citizen, he was heir to the Union Pacific Railroad fortune, chairman of the board of that railroad, an investment banker, a noted polo player and art collector and an ardent Democrat, a partisanship that was reflected in the audience at yesterday's funeral.

The New York Times/Neal Boenzi

Coffin of W. Averell Harriman passing honor guard of state troopers after service at St. Thomas Episcopal Church at Fifth Avenue and 53d Street.

Simple Service

"A great and extraordinary person has departed this life," Bishop Paul Moore Jr. of the Episcopal Diocese of New York said at the simple service in the Gothic interior of St. Thomas Episcopal Church at Fifth Avenue and 53d Street.

"To read his life story even in summary is a staggering experience," the bishop told 900 mourners. "To see history through the eyes of one who was there, with sense and deep commitment to justice and peace and freedom, who was there at almost every dangerous lurch of events in this strange century of ours," Bishop Moore said.

"We do not paint a plastic saint today," he said, "but we do paint a man filled with the obligation of his nobility.

"He was one to whom much was given, and he gave and gave and gave much more to us all. Would that everyone, however great or small his heritage, could be such a steward of his talents. He spread himself upon the whole world."

A Rousing Hymn

His was the only eulogy at the service, which consisted largely of scripture readings, psalms and hymns, concluded by a rousing "Battle Hymn of the Republic" in which the congregation joined a 14-member choir.

But there were many other eulogies in written statements and spoken on the steamy sidewalk outside the church.

"The world has lost one of her most respected statesmen," said President Reagan in a statement. "The death of Averell Harriman closes a chapter in diplomatic history which only someone of his talent and stature could have written."

In a letter to Pamela Harriman, his widow, Mikhail S. Gorbachev, the Soviet General Secretary, hailed Mr. Harriman for "his devotion till the last days of his life to the cause of strengthening mutual understanding between the Soviet and American peoples and improving the relations between the U.S.S.R. and the United States."

'A Great Reassurance'

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain wrote to Mrs. Harriman, "Your husband was a man of immense distinction, truly one of the great figures of modern history." She added: "The fact that so many different Presidents recognized and drew upon his skill and experience was a great tribute to him as well as a great reassurance to America's allies, who saw him as a trusted friend and a firm champion of liberty." Mrs. Thatcher was represented at the funeral service by Lord Oliver Franks.

Outside the church, Walter F. Mondale, the former Vice President and the Democratic Presidential candidate in 1984, said that Mr. Harriman was "a remarkable human being."

"His kind doesn't exist anymore," said Henry A. Kissinger, the former Secretary of State who was joined by two other former Secretaries of State, Cyrus R. Vance and Edmund G. Muskie.

Vernon A. Walters, the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, described Mr. Harriman as "a universal statesman." Mr. Walters, who was representing the Reagan Administration, had worked with Mr. Harriman at the Vietnam peace talks in Paris.

A Harriman Aide

Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who had been a Harriman aide in the 1954 election for governor and later assistant secretary to Governor Harriman, said that "as much as we are diminished by his death, we are enhanced by his life." The Senator from New York noted outside the church that he and his wife, Elizabeth, had met during that campaign.

Former Gov. Hugh L. Carey recalled that, in the midst of the city fiscal crisis 10 years ago, Mr. Harriman, although suffering from injuries received in a fall at his Georgetown home, insisted on writing to various senators promoting Federal loan guarantees for New York City.

Governor Cuomo and his wife, Matilda, and former Governors Carey and Malcolm Wilson along with Mayor Koch followed the coffin into the church. Also present were three former mayors, Robert F. Wagner Sr., John V. Lindsay and Abraham D. Beame.

Mrs. Harriman led a family group that included two daughters, Mary Harriman Fisk and Kathleen Harriman Mortimer, both of Manhattan; six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Among the ushers were former Secretary of Defense Clark Clifford; Nicholas deB. Katzenbach, the former Attorney General; McGeorge Bundy, John Kenneth Galbraith and Arthur Schlesinger, foreign policy advisers to various Presidents, and Sydney Gruson, vice chairman of The New York Times Company.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy and Ethel Kennedy led Kennedy family members and former Kennedy aides who were friends as well as governmental associates of Mr. Harriman.

The mourners filled the steps of the church between two rows of state troopers. Other police including five New York City motorcycle officers had led the funeral cortege to the church and after the service to the Harriman family estate in Harriman, N.Y., where Mr. Harriman was buried.

Family members and friends later attended a reception at Arden House, the one-time Harriman estate in the Ramapo Mountains near Harriman.

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