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NEWS RELEASE

Media Advisory

Remembering World-Class Leader George J. Bean

June 9, 2004 (Tampa, FL) – It is with great sadness that we announce the death of George J. Bean, past executive director from 1965 through July 1996, of the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority, which operates four airports in Hillsborough County including Tampa International Airport. He died Tuesday, June 8, at age 79.

The Tampa Bay community is forever grateful for the significant professional and personal contributions Bean made not only to Tampa but to the worldwide progress of civil air transportation. Thanks to his leadership, intelligence and guidance, the Aviation Authority underwent tremendous change during his tenure as CEO of Tampa International Airport.

“In his three decades he helped to shape this area’s economic fortunes. He oversaw development of a radical new \$83 million airport that has been copied all over the world,” stated Louis E. Miller, executive director. “He ran the airport’s facilities with so much attention to efficiency and passenger convenience and comfort that Tampa International Airport is still today rated one of the best airports in the nation and top five in the world.”

Bean was active in national and international airport activities. He was past president of the American Association of Airport Executives and in 1976; he received the A.A.A.E. President’s Award for outstanding contributions to the airport management profession.

He has served terms as president of the Airport Operators Council International (now ACI - NA) and chairman of the Airports Associations Coordinating Council, a consortium of organizations created to represent airport interests before the International Civil Aviation Organization. The latter is the branch of the United Nations responsible for all matters related to international aviation.

Additionally, he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences and past president of Florida Airport Managers Association (now FAC).

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In 1987, Bean received the Person of Vision Award from the National Society to Prevent Blindness and the following year he was inducted into the Tampa Committee of 100 Hall of Fame.

Our condolences go out to his wife, Norma, their grandchildren, family and many friends. George will be sincerely missed.

The Aviation Authority invites you to share your own memories of George Bean with us. Please send your recollections to hcaa1@tampaairport.com.

Friday, June 11th

Wake/Visitation

Gonzalez Funeral Home

7209 N. Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa

6:00pm – 9:00pm

Saturday, June 12th

Funeral Mass Services

St. Lawrence Catholic Church

5225 N. Himes Ave., Tampa

10:00am

Immediately Following

Centro Asturiano Cemetery

53rd Street East and Martin Luther King Blvd.

Tampa

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[Louis E. Miller](#) Executive Director

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Peter O. Knight Airport Plant City Airport Vandenberg Airport



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