



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, July 22, 2020

**EDC WARREN COUNTY STATEMENT ON THE DEATH
OF EDC PRESIDENT EDWARD M. BARTHOLOMEW JR.**

Edward M. Bartholomew Jr. became a leading architect of the modern City of Glens Falls when in 1977 he was elected mayor at just 28 years of age. He was the youngest mayor in New York State at the time and quickly set about healing political divisions in his hometown over the building of the Glens Falls Civic Center. He made it his mission to make the Civic Center a success. Ed recruited a big-name Civic Center director in Union College's legendary hockey coach Ned Harkness and landed an American Hockey League team in the Adirondack Red Wings. These were just the first of many Ed Bartholomew projects over the next 40+ years to benefit the City of Glens Falls, Warren County and the entire North Country region.

As mayor, he built a modern ball park and brought minor league baseball to Glens Falls. He brought new industry to Pruyn's Island and an intermunicipal sewage project to the Upper Hudson River. He helped establish the Greater Glens Falls Transit System. He helped set the course for the revitalization of Downtown Glens Falls. Ed reveled in solving the intricate political, financial and logistical challenges of complicated projects to benefit the communities he loved.

After several years in state government, Ed came home in 2013 to lead EDC Warren County where, with his signature enthusiasm and energy, he secured federal, state and local funding for major public works projects and large and small businesses throughout Warren County, including a \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant for Glens Falls. At the time of his death, he was leading the effort to help local businesses and industries recover from the COVID-19 shutdown and had been working on these challenges virtually around the clock.

Ed was tireless in his pursuit of progress and entirely bipartisan in his approach to solving problems, and his lifetime in public service had forged close friendships with many federal, state and local officials who admired him and often relied on his wise counsel.

Matthew Fuller, chair of the board of directors of EDC, said: "Words cannot describe the grief we all feel today. Ed was not only a trusted leader but a trusted mentor to me and so many other people. Ed didn't see obstacles, he saw opportunities, and our entire region will forever be grateful for the countless contributions he made. His efforts cannot be replaced. As heavy hearted as we are today, we will carry the EDC torch in Ed's honor."

On behalf of the directors, staff, members and supporters of EDC, we express our sincerest sympathies to Ed's family and many friends. We at EDC have lost a beloved colleague and Warren County has a lost a devoted lifelong champion whose enduring contributions to our quality of life will benefit many generations to come.

For More Information: Matthew Fuller, Chair
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