

Holman's life of service draws praise

Ex-legislator killed in car crash remembered for civic contributions

By MIKE SAKAL
TRIBUNE

A former state representative who was killed in a three-car collision last week was described as having been a civic-minded, patriotic and quiet servant, family and friends recalled during a memorial service Thursday.

More than 500 people attend the service at Valley Presbyterian Church in Paradise Valley, where Cal Holman had been a member since 1961. Mourners included Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, former Rep. J.D. Hayworth, R-Ariz., and several Scottsdale City Council members.

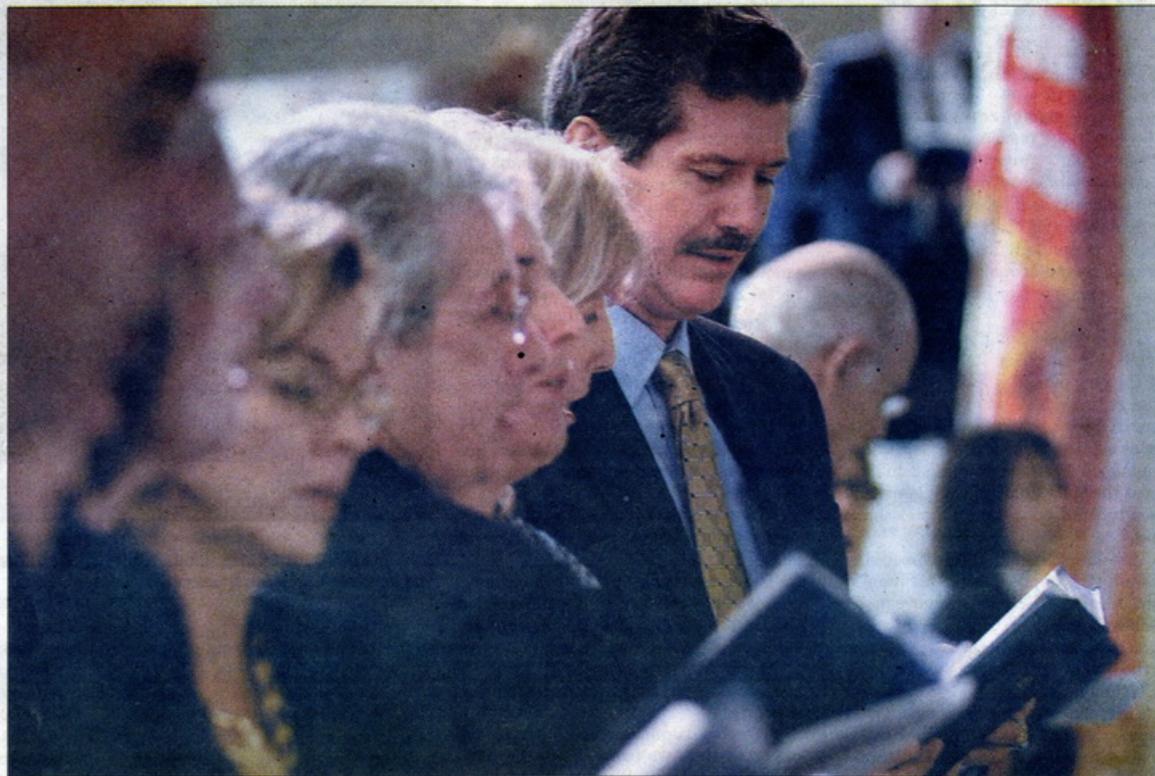


Cal Holman

Holman was a retired banker who earned an undergraduate degree from Harvard and a graduate degree from Stanford University. At Stanford, he met his wife of 51 years, Elizabeth. Holman "left his mark from Topeka, Kansas, to Arizona," the Rev. Woody Garvin said in his eulogy.

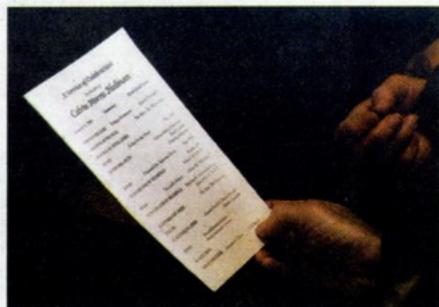
From 1975 to 1985 Holman, a Republican, represented what was then legislative District 24, which included parts of Paradise Valley, Scottsdale and Phoenix. He sponsored or co-sponsored 250 bills, according to Chet Goldberg, Holman's longtime friend. Holman remained active in GOP matters and at Valley Presbyterian, where he spearheaded a program to get people to church who could no longer drive.

Holman, 76, was killed while making a left turn at Scottsdale Road and Eastwood Lane, about one minute's drive from



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER GRIMES, TRIBUNE

MOURNERS: Calvin Mark Holman, son of the late Cal Holman, joins other family members in singing "America the Beautiful" during a memorial service Thursday morning at Valley Presbyterian Church in Paradise Valley.



MEMORIAL: Family and friends of former state legislator Cal Holman hold a memorial service Thursday.

his Scottsdale home, early in the afternoon of Dec. 28. Two cars police said were traveling at more than 70 mph in a 45 mph zone each struck Holman's 1973

Chevrolet Camaro. "What do we say about a tragedy like this?" Garvin said. "It's not right. It's horribly wrong. We can ask for justice. God was

loving and merciful, but he's also just."

Those on hand in the crowded church sang three of Holman's favorite hymns, "To God Be the Glory," "America the Beautiful" and "Onward, Christian Soldiers."

Holman's son, Calvin Mark Holman, a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, said he has fond memories of campaigning door-to-door for his father's first run for the Arizona Legislature in 1974, when the Watergate hearings could be heard on televisions in Valley living rooms.

Holman also said it was his father who gave him the courage to continue attending West

Point when he thought about quitting.

"He knew about patience and perseverance," Holman said. "He said you needed to play the game to win."

Holman is also survived by a daughter, Mary.

The drivers of the two other cars in the crash, Travis J. Aronica, 25, of Michigan and Robert H. Van Brakel, 42, of Phoenix, were arrested on suspicion of second-degree murder and are scheduled to appear in Maricopa County Superior Court today.