



PRESS RELEASE  
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### **Wornick Jewish Day School Condolence Announcement - Ronald C. Wornick**

Foster City, California - It is with profound sadness that we share that Mr. Ronald C. Wornick passed away early Saturday morning. Our hearts go out to his wife Mrs. Anita Wornick, his sons and daughters-in-law, Ken (past board chair) and Cynthia, (past board trustee) Michael and Salma, Jonathan (past board trustee) and Cristina and their grandchildren Ezra, Leo and Wornick alumni, Harry (current board trustee), Dennis, and Sophia.

"Mr. Wornick was an incredible human being and his life story is aligned in every way with the mission of our school," said Head of School, Adam Eilath. The son of immigrant parents, Mr. Wornick worked hard to get the best education possible and led remarkable innovations in science that were of critical importance to the development and security of our country. Mr. Wornick shared with Mr. Eilath that he took great joy in knowing that Wornick's students were encountering the depth and richness of our Jewish tradition. He spoke passionately about his first trip to Israel, his trips to visit the remains of Jewish life in Eastern Europe, and of the value of the Jewish canon. Mr. Wornick loved the arts and was particularly drawn to sculptures and woodworking. His core values of community building, leadership, prosperity, intellectual rigor, and a love of tradition and creativity are values that we hope our students will grow to embody.

Mr. Wornick played a critical role in the establishment of our school in our current home at the North Peninsula Jewish Campus. His generosity, leadership, and sustained advocacy for the future of our school have been instrumental in the success of our community, the PJCC, and the North Peninsula Jewish Campus.

In late January of 2020, a few weeks before the pandemic forced us all into our homes, Mr. and Mrs. Wornick visited our school. Mr. Wornick read a book about Martin Luther King, Jr. to first grade students and fielded adorable and insightful questions about how to be a leader from the children. That same visit, a group of science fair winners from the Middle School came to present their research to Mr. and Mrs. Wornick. Mr. Wornick was not shy about asking pointed and challenging questions to each student. When they got a question correct, his eyes lit up and he exclaimed, "bingo!" His genuine love of learning and the potential of each student was infectious. Every time he saw a student in the hallway, he told them, "you go to the greatest school in the world! I hope you know that." He once told Mr. Eilath, "there is something about every Wornick student, you can't put your finger on it, but they are good, grounded, real young people. You want to be in a room with them." He loved our students and they in turn loved him back.

Our entire Wornick community collectively mourns the loss of Ron Wornick. We send comfort and peace to his entire family and to the hundreds and thousands of students, families, teachers, and individuals in our community who were impacted by his life and leadership. We take comfort in knowing that thousands

of students have been impacted by his legacy and his vision will continue to inform the education of many children in our community for years to come. We send our condolences to the entire Wornick family.

About Wornick Jewish Day School:

Wornick is an independent, co-educational program for learners in Transitional Kindergarten through 8th Grade and is open to all applicants. Located in Foster City, CA, Wornick is accredited by the California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

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