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SENATE MEMORIAL 32

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Kay Papen

A MEMORIAL

HONORING DENNIS SCOTT HAZLETT AND RECOGNIZING HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, Dennis Scott Hazlett was born May 21, 1944 in Natrona Heights, Pennsylvania, and died on November 9, 2019; and

WHEREAS, after serving in the United States air force, Dennis graduated summa cum laude from Illinois state university in 1970; and

WHEREAS, Dennis then moved to Santa Fe, where he began a long and distinguished career in state government; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Dennis took a break from his state government career to do something he had always wanted to do, attend law school; and

WHEREAS, Dennis earned his juris doctor degree from the

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1 university of New Mexico school of law and was admitted to the  
2 state bar in 1991 before returning to state government  
3 employment; and

4 WHEREAS, during his career, Dennis was director of the  
5 former state welfare agency and administrative services  
6 director of a number of state agencies, including the energy,  
7 minerals and natural resources department; the department of  
8 finance and administration; the human services department; the  
9 children, youth and families department; the general services  
10 department; and the state land office; and

11 WHEREAS, Dennis was also the chief operating officer of  
12 the gaming control board; and

13 WHEREAS, Dennis retired from state government as deputy  
14 commissioner of public lands under then-commissioner Ray  
15 Powell; and

16 WHEREAS, Dennis later served as chief administrative  
17 officer of the Valles Caldera national trust and director of  
18 governmental relations for New Mexico state university; and

19 WHEREAS, Dennis was also an adjunct professor in the  
20 university of New Mexico graduate school of public  
21 administration; and

22 WHEREAS, after Dennis retired, most of his work was with  
23 the state legislature, working for both the house of  
24 representatives and the senate; and

25 WHEREAS, among the positions Dennis held were chief of

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1 staff for the house majority leadership office and, most  
2 recently, analyst in the office of Senate President Pro Tempore  
3 Mary Kay Papen; and

4 WHEREAS, Dennis served as chair of the state personnel  
5 board in 2003 and 2004; and

6 WHEREAS, Dennis was also a certified government financial  
7 manager and was selected as 1997 financial manager of the year  
8 by the New Mexico chapter of the association of government  
9 accountants; and

10 WHEREAS, Dennis's greatest passions were aviation and  
11 working with his hands, whether "flipping" a house or,  
12 especially, restoring classic cars; and

13 WHEREAS, Dennis earned his air transport license and was a  
14 flight instructor, having taught many Santa Feans and others to  
15 fly; and

16 WHEREAS, Dennis left state government temporarily in the  
17 early 1980s to become president and general manager of Post  
18 aviation of Santa Fe; and

19 WHEREAS, Dennis was a man of many interests and many  
20 talents who was endowed with a dry wit; he could be incredibly  
21 funny but was not ashamed to cry; and

22 WHEREAS, Dennis is survived by his wife of twenty-seven  
23 years, Judi Ross Hazlett; his brother, Curt, and wife, Wendi;  
24 his brother, Doug, and wife, Kim, and their children; as well  
25 as his beloved kitties Ti, Schwartzl and special kitty buddy,

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Tucker; and

WHEREAS, Dennis was a fine man, a man of integrity, a loyal friend and a true gentleman;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Dennis Scott Hazlett be honored for his professionalism and his many years of public service in state government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to Judi Ross Hazlett.