



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oregon's Business, Civic, Political and Military Leaders Join Public in Memorial Service Friday, December 5 to Honor Tom Moyer, Downtown Portland Skyline Developer, Theater Chain Magnate, Philanthropist

Moyer Leaves a Legacy Across Portland: Park Avenue West Tower, Fox Tower, 1000 Broadway Building, The Grotto's Marilyn Moyer Meditation Chapel, Director Park, Pioneer Square, Oregon Sports Hall of Fame, and one of the Nation's Largest Privately Held Theater Chains

PORTLAND, Ore. — A public memorial service and reception on December 5, will remember the remarkable life of one of Portland's greatest visionaries. Tom Moyer who helped create some of Portland's most iconic and beautiful office towers, parks and theaters, died peacefully, November 28, in his home atop the [Fox Tower](#), one of several buildings he developed in downtown Portland.

The public memorial service for Mr. Moyer will be held Friday at 11:00 a.m., December 5, at [St. Mary's Cathedral](#), 1716 NW Davis St, in Portland, Oregon. This will include a full mass.

A reception will follow, 12:30 PM at the Multnomah Athletic Club, 1849 SW Salmon St, in Portland.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations go to [New Avenues for Youth](#), a program that helps empower homeless youth to exit street life.

[New Avenues for Youth](#)
Joyce N. Furman Building
1220 SW Columbia Street
Portland, Oregon 97201

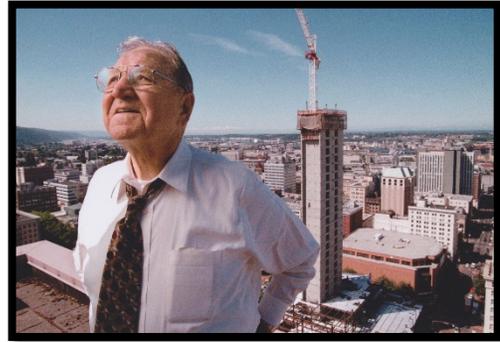
"This will be a day for everyone who knew and loved my grandfather to gather, share stories, and remember his remarkable life and legacy." said Vanessa Sturgeon, President and CEO of [TMT Development, Co., Inc.](#).
"We are all heartbroken over our loss."

Granddaughter, [Vanessa Sturgeon](#), was handpicked by Mr. Moyer to succeed him as the head of TMT Development in 2010.

“Tom Moyer was a businessman who represents a bygone era, where a handshake and your relationships with your fellow businessmen and women meant something different than they do today,” said Bob Thompson, founder of [TVA Architects](#), which worked with Moyer on many projects, including the Fox Tower and [Park Avenue West Tower](#). “Everything with Tom was from the gut, and I have to say that led to some very successful conclusions.”

Humble Beginnings

Tom Moyer was born in his family’s Sellwood home, on March 2, 1919, the dawning of the Roaring Twenties, and the same year Babe Ruth hit his 29th homerun. At the height of the Great Depression, his parents leased a movie theater in Sellwood where all the children worked. Moyer dropped out of high school to pursue a career as a professional boxer.



Mr. Thomas P. Moyer
Portland Skyline, Fox Tower Construction in background, 1999

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The Only Man To Knock Down Boxing Legend, Sugar Ray Robinson

It is a little known fact that Moyer is listed in the [Oregon Sports Hall of Fame](#) as the state’s finest boxer—145 victories in 156 amateur fights, undefeated as a welterweight in 22 professional fights and a slew of prestigious championships including the National Diamond Belt Champion and International Diamond Belt Champion. But what happened in 1941 put Moyer in a whole other category. “Tommy” Moyer, as he was known, faced off against the already legendary Sugar Ray Robinson, with the winner going to the 1940 Olympics. In a five-round amateur bout, Moyer knocked Robinson to the ground—but Sugar Ray got up, winning in a close decision. Robinson went pro, and Mr. Moyer was selected to take Robinson’s place on the US boxing team, adding “Olympian” to his impressive resume.

Bronze Star War Hero

World War II cancelled his Olympic dreams. In 1941, Moyer joined the Army, serving four years in the I Company, 186th Regiment, 41st Infantry Division, stationed in the Southwest Pacific territory that covered Australia, New Guinea and The Philippines. He earned a Bronze Star for the entrepreneurial initiative he took to convert a defunct factory to make bread and feed the troops.

Love at First Sight

During his first year in service, Moyer saw a picture of his wartime roommate’s cousin, Marilyn Byrne, and instantly fell in love. The two corresponded for several years before they met and married in 1946, on Moyer’s birthday. At their home near Glendoveer Golf Course in NE Portland, Tom and Marilyn raised four children, Tom Jr., Colleen, Kimberly, and Timothy. Later came 14 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

One of the Largest Privately Owned Theater Companies in the US

Along with his family, Tom Moyer’s theater business was also expanding. In 1966, he introduced the first multi-screen theater in the region, [Eastgate Theater in Portland](#). During the 1970s and 1980s, the theater chain grew throughout Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Nevada and California. By 1989, he owned over 300 screens, making it the nation’s tenth largest theater company at the time and the nation’s largest privately



owned theater company west of the Mississippi. In 1989, he sold his Luxury Theaters chain to Act III Cinemas (now Regal Cinemas).

In his 70's—A New Career

After the sale of his theater chain, in his early 70's, Moyer launched his real estate development company. In the 1990s and 2000s, his major projects included the 1000 Broadway Building, the Fox Tower, Hayden Meadows and many other properties throughout the Portland area and Washington State. His latest project, the beautiful Park Avenue West Tower, is now rising across the street from the Fox Tower, in the heart of downtown Portland.

Heart for Giving

Moyer was a quiet philanthropist. He started the [Marilyn Moyer Charitable Trust](#), was an honorary trustee for Pioneer Courthouse Square, donated an entire city block for what is now Director Park, and helped raise funds for Central Catholic High School, St. Agatha's School, St. Anthony's Village, Providence St. Vincent Medical Foundation, and Jesuit High School. He was a founder of [New Avenues for Youth](#), an organization dedicated to preventing youth homelessness and supporting homeless and at-risk youth.

Several of his philanthropic projects were dedicated to his beloved wife including Jesuit's Marilyn Moyer Theatre and The Grotto's Marilyn Moyer Meditation Chapel.

The Legacy Continues

Moyer retired in 2010 and, until recently, worked with his handpicked successor, granddaughter, Vanessa Sturgeon, who began working for her grandfather in 2000, while still a graduate student at Willamette University. Sturgeon is dedicated to carrying on her grandfather's legacy, honoring his principles of outstanding leadership in community, business, and philanthropy.

"This is a time of great sadness, and a time when many will lovingly remember a man who combined tremendous talent and care for his community, with great humility," said Sturgeon. "Everything Tom Moyer stood for—his creativity, entrepreneurship, honesty, humor and humanity will continue to inspire and motivate us in the years ahead."

Sturgeon and the TMT Development team continue work to bring the Park Avenue West Tower to completion, slated for 2016, and develop other properties under the ownership and management of the company Moyer founded.

Information, including a video and images recalling the milestones of Mr. Moyer's life, can be found [on the Company website](#).

About TMT Development

TMT Development Company Inc. is a leader in sustainable, eco-friendly commercial properties in Oregon and Washington. As part of the Company's Environmentally-Conscious Organization Initiative ("ECO" Initiative), downtown Portland's iconic Fox Tower is LEED Gold level certified. Park Avenue West Tower is pre-certified LEED Platinum. Former theater magnate Thomas P. Moyer founded TMT Development in the 1980's. His handpicked successor, granddaughter Vanessa Sturgeon, became President and CEO in 2010, transitioning the Company's philosophy of smart, sustainable growth and expansion from one generation to the next. For more information about the Company, visit tmtdevelopment.com. # # #