



The Honorable Linnet F. Deily

Diplomat. Public servant. Peacemaker. Trailblazer. Yours is a life defined by service — service to nation, to church, and to the common good. With wisdom and grace, you have navigated complex corridors of power, always bringing a steady presence, a principled voice, and a peacemaker's heart.

You earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Texas at Austin in 1967 and a Master of Arts in International Management from the University of Houston in 1979. With this foundation, you went on to build a distinguished career in both the private and public sectors. As Vice Chairman of Charles Schwab & Co., you were one of the most senior women in American finance, widely respected for your strategic insight, calm leadership, and ability to navigate global markets' complexities with confidence and care.

In 2001, President George W. Bush appointed you to serve as the United States Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. There, you represented the interests of the United States with integrity and diplomacy at a pivotal moment in global trade. Throughout your public career, you also served on the Board of Regents of the University of Texas, helping to steward one of the nation's largest public higher education systems.

But your vocation has always extended beyond the public square and into the areas of faith and service. A lifelong Episcopalian and devoted lay leader at Christ Church Cathedral in Houston, you have served The Episcopal Church with exceptional dedication. From 2000 to 2006, you served on the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church, offering steady and principled leadership during a crucial period in the life of our church. Through many General Conventions, you helped guide the Church's response to complex issues of governance, global mission, and inclusion, always with thoughtfulness, humility, and conviction. You embody the promise of lay leadership in the Church—grounded, faithful, and called to serve.

Those who know you speak of your quiet strength, your willingness to listen, and your commitment to justice through dialogue and diplomacy. You have modeled what it means to be a Christian in public life: principled without being partisan, faithful without being narrow, gracious without being passive. In a world that too often prizes volume over substance, you have shown us the power of calm, consistent, courageous leadership.

Your good friend, the Right Reverend Dena Harrison, said of you, "Linnet Deily is an exemplar of the stewardship of the gifts God gives to each of us. Having many gifts, she has accepted many responsibilities for the use of those gifts in the ministry of the Church. The Diocese of Texas and The Episcopal Church are just two of the conduits through which we have all been blessed by her devotion to Christian service. In many venues, Linnet's leadership has shined brightly as an inspiration and a model for faithful life and service in the name of Christ, and we are grateful."

In recognition of your distinguished public service, your faithful witness, and your lasting contributions to both nation and Church, the Board of Trustees of the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest is honored to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*.